

NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY
OF
AUSTRALIA
Incorporated Reg No: A0058827L

National Square Dance Society of Australia Inc
2021 Annual General Meeting
Held Sunday 26th September 2021 11am EST - 9am WST

Minutes

01. Open Meeting. At 0906 hrs WST 1106hrs EST
President Kevin Thomas opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

02. Recognition of Members.

Present:

Kevin Thomas (President)	Robin Kerr
Rosalind Todd (Vice-President)	Graham Burgan
Barry Chandler (Treasurer)	Lorraine Keenan
Celia Karas (Secretary)	Andrew Verhoef (Committee)
Kaye Chandler	Edward Thomas
David Todd (Committee)	Helen Bates
Pauline Hansford(Committee)	Russell Wall
Alan Hansford	Sasha-Lee Boon (Committee)
Barbara Treharne (Committee)	

03. Apologies:

Christopher Karas (Proxy held by Celia Karas)
Stephen Longwood (Proxy held by Celia Karas)

Sasha-Lee Boon advised the meeting it was her understanding from CAV that legal names were to be used in all documentation not alias names. For any Society purposes these need to be correct.

04. Presidents Report. Appendix A

05. Correspondence (Nil)

Resolution

That in future a Correspondence Register be kept.

Carried

06. Treasurers Report. – Appendix B

There was some discussion re additional documentation required with the financial statements according to Model Rules Clause 48 2b that certification by the Committee prior to financials being submitted to the Annual General Meeting of the Association should have occurred. Andrew Verhoef also requested sighting the bank statements of NSDSA.

Resolution

Graham Burgan moved & David Todd seconded that the Treasurers report be accepted subject to verification by two members of the Committee.

Carried

07. Setting of Fees and Charges.

Resolution

Graham Burgan moved & David Todd seconded that the recommendation that no fees be charged for 2021-2022 be supported.

Carried

Resolution

Rosalind Todd moved & Pauline Hansford seconded that all previous fees not invoiced be waived.

Carried

08. Other Reports From

- a) Co-ordinating Editor. – Appendix C
- b) 1800 co-ordinator. Appendix D
- c) Merchandising Officer- Appendix E
- d) Promotions Team. - Appendix F
- e) Face-Book Co-ordinator - Appendix G
- f) Web-Co-ordinator –Appendix H
- g) Others.

Resolution

Rosalind Todd moved & Robin Kerr seconded that all reports be accepted.

Carried.

09. Special Business.

a) Update of the current Constitution

In order to bring the Society into compliance and in line with how we currently operate, and listed in the Attachment 01 the following motion is put:

“That the National Square Dance Society of Australia Inc, adopt the Model Rules of Consumer Affairs Victoria with the following amendments that have been published on our website and accompanying documents available for this meeting.” (These amendments are highlighted in Red)

Resolution

Graham Burgan moved & David Todd seconded that we revise the constitution documents and hold another meeting in 21 days, being a Special General Meeting for the sole purpose of the Constitution.

Carried

Resolution

Russell Wall moved & Sasha-Lee Boon seconded that any further discussion regarding the constitution be deferred to the end of this meeting.

Carried

b) Other business of which previous notice has been given

10. Election of Officers:

a) Declare the number of Ordinary Members

Discussion was held regarding how the number of officers be determined.

Resolution

Graham Burgan moved & Sasha-Lee Boon seconded that we have 6 ordinary members on the committee.

Carried

Alan Hansford took the chair. It was determined that if either Alan or Pauline Hansford were standing for positions they could not be

returning officers consequently Lorraine Keenan agreed to take on this position for the meeting

b) Election of Committee:

01. President
Kevin Thomas was duly elected
02. Vice-President
Rosalind Todd was duly elected
03. Treasurer
Barry Chandler & Sasha-Lee Boon were nominated
Barry Chandler was duly elected
04. Secretary
Celia Karas & Sasha-Lee Boon were nominated
Celia Karas was duly elected

05. 6 Ordinary Members
Nominations were:
Pauline Hansford Accepted-nominated
Barbara Treharne Accepted-nominated
Graham Burgan Accepted-nominated
Kaye Chandler Declined
Sasha-Lee Boon Accepted-nominated
David Todd Accepted-nominated
Andrew Verhoef Accepted-nominated

Celia Karas left the meeting 1138hrs WST 1338hrs EST

Special Business as deferred from previously:

Update of the current Constitution

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the following motion is put:

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Resolution

The resolution was lost as it did not have the support of at least 75% of the members

Resolution

Graham Burgan moved that 15 minutes be spent discussing this issue.

Carried

Associate membership was discussed. Suggestion that the word 'Associate' be removed.

Associate Membership revert back to Clause 14 in the Model Rules

Membership of NSDSA needs to be confirmed and approved by the committee prior to each AGM due to possible change of office holders in each State.

Timelines need to be taken into consideration regarding financials and all other legal requirements.

Record of membership to be held by Secretary.

Secretary or delegate to ensure financials along with the appropriate signed declarations as required by CAV to be attached with the Annual Return reported to CAV annually.

Nominations procedure to be regulated.

Kevin Thomas was thanked for all his hard work particularly with regards to the recent Constitution issues.

11. Next Meeting

Continuation of the AGM –Sunday 21st November 8pm

Special Meeting - Sunday 24th October 2021

AGM 2022 – TBC subject to Goulburn convention. Possibly either 22 or 24 April 2022.

12. Meeting Closed

1225 hrs WST 1425hrs EST.

Appendix A

Presidents Report 2021

I think the 2021 will go down as one of the hardest I have I have had to deal with as far as leading the administration of our Society. What should have been a very easy term because of no activity within the Square Dance movement, this was more than offset by the task of making us comply with the registered constitution and well as formalizing what we actually do.

How we got into this situation has not been established as the Society was never ever registered to operate under the "Model Rules".

I have personally spent more time than I would have wished, dealing with Consumer Affairs Victoria.

This was by way of numerous phone calls (too many to mention) and even personal visits to the City Office.

Dealing with Bureaucracy is not easy and this is still ongoing.

I have Personally logged a Freedom of Information claim against the CAV.

The specific questions asked are: -

1. When did the Society revert back to the "Model Rules"? and
2. Who lodged the change?

There has been so far no response.

In order to make us compliant again, there were several options looked at.

These included looking an Incorporating in a different State.

Copies of Incorporations Act from NSW, ACT, QLD & SA were looked at.

It was decided that the line of least resistance would be to continue with the Victorian "Model Rules" being used as a base, and changing just those clauses that represent the way we actually operate.

This is what is in the proposed amendment.

These will no longer be the "Model Rules" but with (upon being accepted) become "Our Own Rules".

The amount of work that had to be done to get to this stage has been enormous, far more than I (and most people) would have expected.

Firstly, we had to establish who was actually Members.

I must thank Graham Burgan here, for the enormous amount of research and suggestions in establishing this.

This was taken to the CAV who gave their approval.

Secondly, we had to see what clauses needed to be modified to suit or operation.

All very simple when it is condensed down like this. But believe me, it wasn't

What we have to present, is what we have come with, It will no doubt need tweaking as it is almost impossible to get it right the first time.

You can have 10 people read it and could have 10 different interpretations.

However, future committees may wish to change it to suit the ongoing needs of the Society.

A big gratitude of thanks to Celia Karas, Graham Burgan and Alan Hansford and specifically to Ros Todd, who without her level headedness and support I would have walked away from it all.

In closing, I would also like to thank our executive committee, who were always there to offer support.

As I now have the big Eight Zero in my sights, with my hearing making it difficult to enjoy Square Dancing as I once did, it is perhaps time to start winding back.

But as the next term will only be a short one (Until February) I would

be interested in renominating so that I can see these current issues resolved. Should it be the Members wish.

If not, Then I pledge to make myself available, should there be any assistance needed.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during this difficult Period.

Please keep safe

Regards

Kevin Thomas

President

Appendix B

Details	Particulars	Ledger	Bank Statement	Variance
Westpac 033 605 514400	Current Balance	-	16577.08	- 16,577.08
Westpac 035 236 132691	Current Balance	677.94	687.94	- 10.00

Profit & Loss Statement

INCOME

Donations	
Interest	1.12
Review Adverts	55.00
Merchandise	
Interest - Reserve	10.53
Freight Recovery	
Affiliation Fees	
Other income	22.35

Total Income 89.00

EXPENSES

Administration & Secretarial	
Bank Fees	
Freight	
Merchandise	
Printing Review	- 1,230.80
Stationery	- 226.95
Promotion - Advertising	- 2,254.51
Telephone - 1800	- 800.00
Web & Internet	- 32.21
Annual return	

Total Expenses - 4,544.47

Net Profit/(Loss) for Period - 4,455.47

Opening Balance	
Cheque A/c	3,643.94
Reserve	18,066.02
	21,709.96
Net Profit/(Loss) for Period	- 4,455.47
	17,254.49

Current Balance	677.94
	16,576.55
	17,254.49
DIFFERENCE	0.00

	2020		Fund Balances	
Website	6,652.14	- 32.21		6,619.93
Youth	2,252.66			2,252.66
Review	4,261.65	- 1,230.80	55.00	3,085.85
Promotions	4,801.80	- 2,254.51		2,547.29
General	3,741.71	- 1,026.95	34.00	2,748.76
	21,709.96			17,254.49
		- 4,544.47	89.00	17,254.49
				- 0.00

Appendix C

Coordinating Editor's Report 2021

The Review currently has 660 subscribers and is made available through the National website. Of these there are 57 overseas subscribers. New South Wales continues to print 140 copies of the magazine which includes the quarterly Australian Square Dance Review. A number of states have links to the Review via their state websites.

It is pleasing to note that state presidents usually present a report in most issues and that information is received from the National Associations during the year.

Advertising, whilst a minimal cost, is rarely taken advantage of and I receive constant requests for bank details when I indicate payment needs to be made in advance.

The Guidelines for the Electronic Review which is to include the Special Edition of the Review has now been completed and has been sent to states who have indicated that they have a state editor.

In closing, my thanks go to those who assist in compiling information for the Review and to Kevin Thomas for uploading the Reviews both past and present.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017*
Subscribers from Webpage	660	697	197	119	78
Printed NSW	140	175	200	400	400

- Electronic four copies

Rosalind Todd
Coordinating Editor

Appendix D

National Square Dance Society of Australia Public Relations report to AGM 26th September 2021

Listed below are the numbers of calls received for the last four years on the 1800 line. I have left in the previous 3 years figures to give you a comparison.

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
NSW	11	17	17	24
Victoria	12	22	8	15
WA	6	7	5	9
Queensland	6	10	7	15
ACT	0	0	0	0
SA	5	4	2	4
Tasmania	1	1	0	2
National	6	2	0	0
Total contacts	47	63	39(10 mths only)	69 -- 17 months

As in the past, we are using our personal landline and mobiles for outgoing calls at no cost to the Society. The total cost for the last 17 months has been \$1023.06. This is an average of \$60.18 per month against \$62.58 last year for the line and 1800 service combined.

Payments for our 1800 service and the landline are still on autopay and twice a year, The "Account" is topped up by our treasurer with \$400. This system is still working well.

If you are using the 1800 number in your advertising, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. It is quite embarrassing and unprofessional when I do not know what a caller is talking about.

As you can see, there is not that much activity considering this is a 17 month period. However, the calls I do get leave people very happy that they have got on to a real person.

Because of all the scam calls we are getting, we have stopped answering the 1800 service after about 7.00 pm. However, we always check it before retiring and handle the call the next morning if necessary. Most genuine calls come in during the day.

If there are any changes to your state contact details for 1800 call purposes, please advise me of the necessary alterations.

Pauline Hansford, Public Relations Officer. (and Alan, my PA)

Email "hansfordap@gmail.com"

Appendix E

Merchandising Offers Report to the 2021 AGM

This is just to say that as there has been no activities, there is nothing to report on this year.

Let's just hope that this report will not be the same next year

Barbara Treharne
Merchandising Officer

Appendix F

Promotions Sub Committee Report to December 31 2020 AGM 26th September 2021

During 2020 the Promotions committee with ratification from the National Society completed the following tasks:

National Square Dance Day

The last Sunday in February to be the designated day when all states demonstrate square dancing. The content of the day be up to individual state societies/clubs. Unfortunately as a result of the Covid pandemic states have been unable to proceed with this event.

A designated space on the National website has been set up for promotional resources which can be utilised by square dancers and can be found at <https://www.squaredanceaustralia.org/promotion-resources/>. Some of the resources available include:

Flyers

There are four flyers available on the website available for download that can be personalised with contact details of the user.

There are also some advertising flyers submitted by Don Barba WA as an ideas resource.

Radio Advertising

After a lot of persistence from Brenda Cockburn two radio ads were produced by Purple Wax which are now on the website for usage. These ads are available to use on radio stations and are not suitable for television. Individual radio stations may charge for air play. There was an additional \$60+ GST charge as a result of changing the ad from .com to .org on the male version ad. These ads were produced at a cost of \$300 + GST.

Video

There are currently three videos on the website of varying lengths. Some have Australian content these were supplied courtesy of Greg Fawell WA.

Meet-Ups

Sasha Boon conducted a training session to set up Meet Ups for state & territory delegates. Events had been set up for Perth and Launceston. There can only be three events running at a time on the Meet Ups platform. Sasha completed additional training for the Perth delegates.

Perth Group -133 members Society November Beginners Group

Event	RSVP	Attended ?
First	13	
Second	5	
Third	4	
Total	22	

Melbourne Group 139 members

This platform relies on someone attending the new dancer event to welcome new dancers and check on the people who actually attend the event as a result of Meetup.

Three Year Plan

Four volunteers from the sub-committee have been discussing and working on a three year plan for promotions which is ongoing.

Update 2021

As a result of the continuing Covid- 19 pandemic progress on the Promotions committee has slowed.

In May 2021 I emailed all states to assess their interest in working together to utilise the radio ads on community radio through the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia. New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia came on board and a promotion was planned for June and July 2021. Whilst the timing was not ideal due to the Delta strain outbreak in NSW it put the word out about square dancing. We were provided with two interviews along with the playing of the two radio ads. The first interview was done with Kevin Walsh from Good Morning Country and David Todd, President SARDA NSW. The second interview with Sasha Boon, Secretary VSDA, and Julie from Saturday Breakfast.

These ads were broadcasted across thirty-eight radio stations (6 in Victoria, 3 in Tasmania, 4 in South Australia, 4 in Queensland and 21 in NSW) and reached an estimated audience of 348,000 listeners each week. The ads were played 1134 times with a preference to the female version of the ad. The 1800 number received one call as a direct result of this promotion.

Our next project is to work on an app for square dancing. This project is in its early stages so there is nothing further to report.

Rosalind Todd

VP National

Appendix G

National Square Dance Society of Australia

Facebook Co-ordinator

AGM Report 26th September 2021

Square Dancing in Australia Facebook page was developed to provide a platform to encourage new dancers to square dancing. As at December 2020 Square Dancing in Australia was administered by Jason & Leanne Nicholson & Brenda Cockburn.

On 19th March 2021 Rosalind Todd VP National Society was given administration privileges to this site and Jason & Leanne Nicholson & Brenda Cockburn withdrew from this page. Sasha Boon (Victoria) was later added as an editor and then later as an administrator.

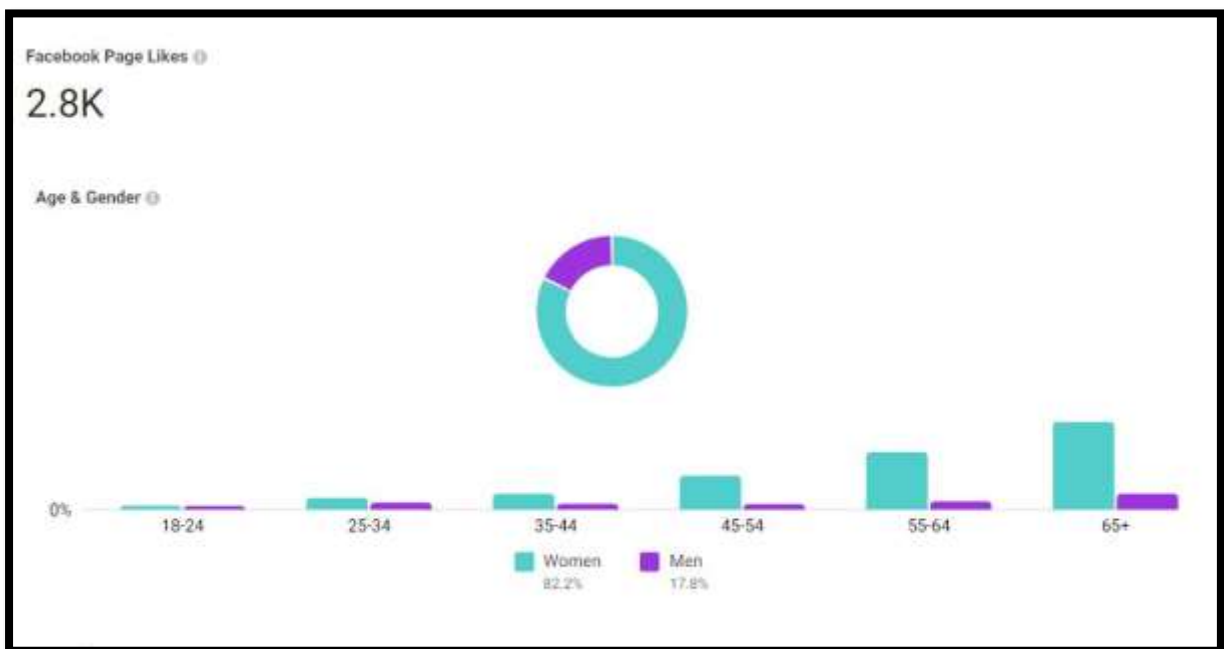
There are a limited number of leaders who utilise the function of this page to promote to new dances. Both administrators repost new dancer information from other pages as appropriate and answer any enquiries.

This page is also linked to the National Society webpage.

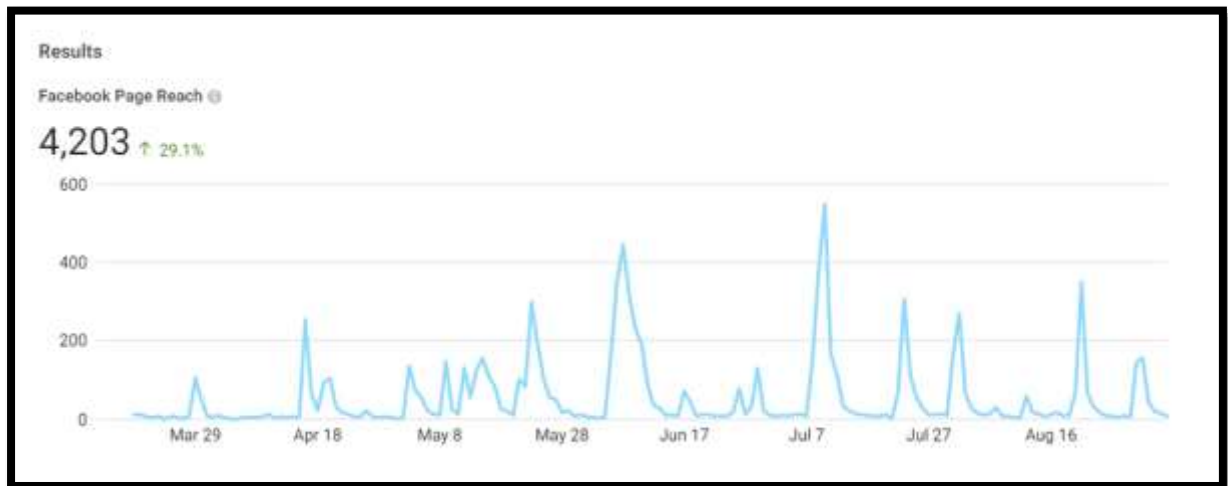
Below are some of the statistics that this page generates:

Please note the data provided is only as good as the information provided by Facebook users.

Age and Gender



Results from March 19 to September 2021



Thu Jul 8, 7:09pm
This is why you should be s...

Reach 1.5K



Sat Jun 5, 6:22pm
Now is the time to learn to s...

Reach 1.4K



Wed May 12, 12:19am
This could happen to you...!...

Reach 564



Thu Jul 22, 11:14pm
So much fun.....

Reach 550



Fri Aug 20, 11:16pm
Don't say No till you give it a ...

Reach 426



Sun May 23, 7:43pm
Check out the new dancers I...

Reach 355

Dancing Makes You SMARTER

The 21-year study of senior citizens, 75 and older, was led by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City, funded by the National Institute on Aging, and published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

% = Reduced Risk of Dementia

- 0% in Bicycling, swimming or playing golf
- 35% in Reading
- 47% in Doing crossword puzzles at least four days a week
- 76% in Dancing Frequently

Dancing:

- Reduces stress and depression
- Increases energy and serotonin
- Improves flexibility, strength, balance, endurance
- Strengthens bones and boosts cardiovascular health
- Increases mental capacity by exercising our cognitive processes
- Dynamic and rapid-fire decision making, creates new neural paths.

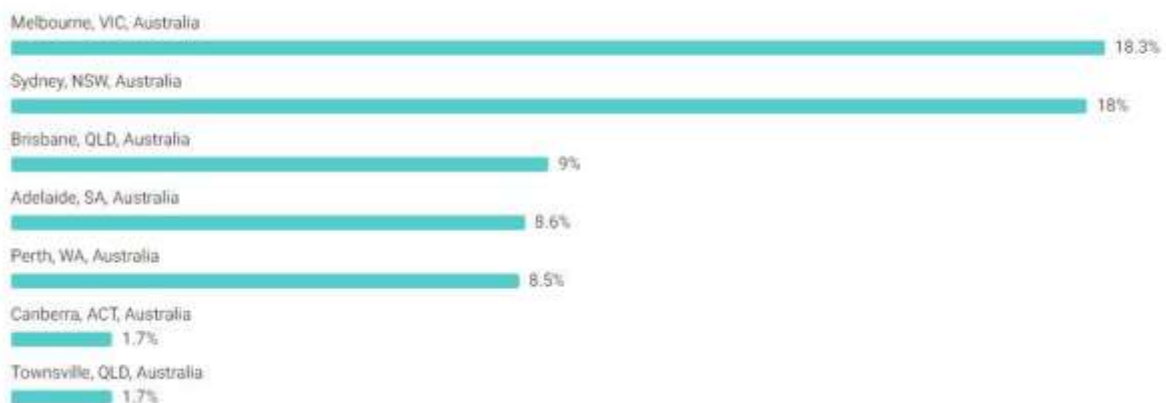
David Avocado Wolfe

Celebrate Life Through Dance

I DON'T DANCE
TO WIN
COMPETITION
NOR DO I DANCE TO
OTHER PEOPLE'S TUNE
I DANCE
TO ESCAPE THIS WORLD
I DANCE TO FIND PEACE
WITH MYSELF
I DANCE TO FEEL FREE
AND I DANCE
TO FEEL STRONG



Top Cities



SquareDanceAustralia.org Web-Coordinator's Report 2021

Over the past year, after discussions at our General meetings
The website has been all placed under one domain name
(suaredanceaustralia.org)
This will prevent the confusion of parts of it being on different domains.
The other domains have been parked and anyone accessing them will be
given a message to update their Bookmarks to the current domain.

There has been some work done to try and reduce spam emails coming
via the website. We have now installed reCAPTCHA and Honeypot to filter
out Bots. (Non-Humans)

I have reviewed the current by-law (Schedule 04. 01)
on Website Operations Guidelines.
It is 24 years (Newcastle 1997) since the current Guidelines were written
and much has changed since then.

The current Guidelines are very comprehensive and includes duplicates of
duties and actions that are covered by our general rules of operation.
These I am proposing to remove.

Technology has also changed and references to terms used are no longer
current or do not need to be in any guidelines.

The pricing section is no longer relevant as it included a subscription for
affiliates and clubs.
As we have been fortunate to get donations marked for website support.

With this in mind, this has been reviewed and the number of pages has
been reduced from 10 pages to 4 the pages.

I would like to put this forward as an Agenda Item for 2021 Annual
General Meeting.

Best Regards

Kevin Thomas
Web Co-Ordinator