



Deaf Advocacy, Sports & Recreation ACT Inc.

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 25th November 2023 – 10:15am

North Belconnen Uniting Church, 30 Conley Drive, Melba ACT 2615

MINUTES

1. **Open/Welcome address by Secretary Louise Irvine – Meeting Opened at 10:16am**

The Secretary welcomed all members to the 14th Annual General Meeting.

Louise Irvine agreed to be the Minute Taker for this AGM.

2. **Rollcall and check of the quorum**

2.1 **Attendance**

The rollcall was performed, and the necessary quorum was ascertained.

20 Members/4 Observers presented. See below of their signatures.

DeafACT Board/Committee:

Lauren Reid
Kellyanne Rosalion
Louise Irvine
Juliet Dowling
Kathe O'Brien
Vera Hall
Lina Tan
Gavin Reid
Rhiannon Gonlag

Interpreters (members):

Amanda Dolejší
Sheree Murray

Observers:

Eliza Martin
Ian Slinn
Max Hall
Gail Cox

Members:

Vanessa Miller
Ivan Dolejší
Sandra French
Belinda Dawson
Miles Kemp
Richard Rosalion
Lou Farrer
Warren Love
Amanda Curtis
Simone Xirakis
Nicole Seifert



Deaf Advocacy, Sports & Recreation ACT (DeafACT) Inc.

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 25th November 2023

Location:

North Belconnen Uniting Church, 30 Conley Drive, Melba ACT 2615

Time:

10:00am for 10:15am start

ATTENDING

Name	Signature	Name	Signatures
1. Lauren Reid (President)	<i>LR</i>	28. Amanda Curtis	<i>AC</i>
2. Kellyanne Rosalion (Vice President)	<i>KR</i>	29. Ian Slinn	<i>IS</i>
3. Louise Irvine (Secretary)	<i>LI</i>	30. Max Hall	<i>MH</i>
4. Juliet Dowling (Treasurer)	<i>JD</i>	31. Simone Xirakis	<i>SX</i>
5. Laisarn Leong (Committee)	<i>LL</i>	32. Gail Cox	<i>GC</i>
6. Lina Tan (Committee)	<i>LT</i>	33. Stephen Cox	<i>SC</i>
7. Jacob Clarke (Committee) <i>apology</i>	<i>JC</i>	34. Nicole Seifert	<i>NS</i>
8. Kathe O'Brien (Committee)	<i>KO</i>	35. Lauren Napper-Fernan	<i>LN</i>
9. Vera Hall (Sub-committee)	<i>VH</i>	36. Sheree Murray (Interpreter)	<i>SM</i>
10. Amanda Dolejsi (Sub-committee)	<i>AD</i>	37.	
11. Gavin Reid (Sub-committee)	<i>GR</i>	38.	
12. Rhiannon Gonlag (Sub-committee)	<i>RG</i>	39.	
13. Gregory Ratford	<i>GR</i>	40.	
14. Vanessa Miller	<i>VM</i>	41.	
15. Shane Mundy	<i>SM</i>	42.	
16. Ivan Dolejsi	<i>ID</i>	43.	
17. Sandra French	<i>SF</i>	44.	
18. Belinda Dawson	<i>BD</i>	45.	
19. Miles Kemp	<i>MK</i>	46.	
20. Eliza Martin	<i>EM</i>	47.	
21. Zara Maxwell-Smith <i>apology</i>	<i>ZM</i>	48.	
22. Richard Rosalion	<i>RR</i>	49.	
23. Lou Farrer	<i>LF</i>	50.	
24. Kurt Farrer	<i>KF</i>	51.	
25. Warren Love	<i>WL</i>	52.	
26. Carol Peace	<i>CP</i>	53.	
27. William Peace	<i>WP</i>	54.	

2.2 Apologies

- Ricky Bryan
- Zara Maxwell-Smith
- Chloe Nash-Shannon
- Daniel Shannon
- Jacob Clarke

2.3 Proxies:

- Louise Irvine for Jacob Clarke
- Rhiannon Gonlag for Joseph Davies
- Nicole Seifert for Katie Wilmington
- Vanessa Miller for Isabel Timmerman
- Lauren Reid for Sheree Murray

3. Minutes of the previous AGM

3.1 Matters arising from the 13th AGM

There were no matters arising.

Motion: The Minutes of the 13th AGM, accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Moved: Juliet Dowling

Seconded: Kellyanne Rosalion

Motion carried.

4. Presentation of the 2022-2023 Annual Report

With the easing of COVID restrictions, we've been actively working to bring you a diverse range of events. From lively BBQs and engaging theatre events to the spirited Dragonboat ACT partnership, open captioned movie events and a festive Christmas in July lunch - there's been something for everyone!

Reflecting on the past year – it's been a special time! In November, we organised a bus for the community to attend the Deaf Festival in Sydney, creating wonderful memorable experiences for all who joined.

December was a big month. The AGM and BBQ 2022 was a significant gathering where we announced the new President and Vice President. Jacob, our previous President, passed the baton, and I happily stepped into the role of President-elect. The performance of the Deaf Butterflies by the Deaf Seniors group at the Belconnen Art Centre was a beautiful highlight, and we eagerly anticipate their next performance next week! Additionally, two of our esteemed board members received special recognition - Lauren received the Sue Salthouse Leadership Fund, and Laisarn received the "Achievement in Inclusion" award from the ACT Government.

In February 2023, DeafACT teamed up with Dragonboat ACT for some training and thrilling races with other teams. I'm delighted to share that we are finalists at the ACT Sport Awards in the inclusion category for the "Minister for Sport and Recreations Award for Inclusion". A heartfelt congratulations to everyone who participated and the community that showed their massive support! A special acknowledgement to Kathe O'Brien for her dedication in organising trainings and the race.

As a result of our advocacy to the ACT Legislative Assembly with the Auslan Rights Petition, an inquiry was held. We'd like to thank everyone who provided a submission to the Standing Committee about their experiences and to those who participated in the public hearing.

The report from the Committee was tabled in February this year and the Committee made 25 positive recommendations that show they listened to the community's requests. We (and our community) were very disappointed by the Government's response to the recommendations and will continue to monitor their progress and keep them accountable to the recommendations they accepted in principle.

We've continued supporting our Seniors with their monthly catch ups and it's great to see the friendships and connections growing.

With an exciting sneak peek into this financial year, we've also established a Men's Group led by Gavin Reid and a Youth Group lead by Rhiannon Gonlag under DeafACT. The responses have been fantastic, and we look forward to planning more events and sharing them with all of you.

As of October 2023, our DeafACT family has grown over 100 members! How amazing is that? Thank you to each one of you for contributing to the warmth and vibrancy of our community. Being the President has made me realise how much I love the community, supporting and advocating for everyone. I have enjoyed organising events so I can bring the community together and being able to see everyone happy, makes me very happy!

I'm willing to continue to work harder in 2024 with my wonderful DeafACT board members!

Motion: That the Annual Report present by the President be accepted.

Moved: Louise Irvine

Seconded: Amanda Curtis

Motion carried.

5. Presentation of the 2022-23 Annual Financial Statement

The Treasurer presented the Annual Financial Statement to the meeting.

Motion: That the meeting receives and accept the financial statement as a true account for the 2022-23 financial year.

Moved: Amanda Curtis

Seconded: Louise Irvine

Motion carried.

6. Appointment of the Returning Officer and scrutineers

The Chair stood down.

Simone Xirakis was appointed Returning Officer by general agreement of the meeting.

7. Election and Induction of office bearers

7.1 Proxies reminder

Proxies will only be required if a vote is required.

7.2 President: One nomination – Lauren Reid was nominated off nomination form. Lauren accepted and was elected unopposed.

7.3 Vice President: One nomination – Jacob Clarke was nominated off nomination form. Jacob accepted and was elected unopposed.

7.4 Secretary: One nomination – Louise Irvine was nominated off nomination form. Louise accepted and was elected unopposed.

7.5 Treasurer: One nomination – Kellyanne Rosalion was nominated off nomination form. Kellyanne accepted and was elected unopposed.

7.6 Public Officer: No nominations – Kathe O'Brien accepted the position at the conclusion of the meeting.

7.7 General Committee Members (up to 10 positions):

From the nomination form:

Vera Hall

Gavin Reid

Nicole Seifert

Rhiannon Gonlag

Vera, Gavin, Nicole and Rhiannon accepted and were elected unopposed.

Congratulations to the DeafACT Board of 2024:

President: Lauren Reid
Vice-President: Jacob Clarke
Secretary: Louise Irvine
Treasurer: Kellyanne Rosalion
Public Officer: Kathe O'Brien
General Committee: Vera Hall, Gavin Reid, Nicole Seifert and Rhiannon Gonlag

The President took the Chair.

8. Appointment of Auditors

An alternative auditor was used this year as the appointed auditor was unavailable due to illness.

Motion: That the new Accountant will continue next year.

Moved: Juliet Dowling

Seconded: Lauren Reid

Motion carried.

9. Additional Business

No additional business.

10. Announcement of date, place and time of the AGM

It was agreed that the new committee would discuss and set a date and time for the next AGM to be held in November 2024.

Louise thanked all present and the interpreters for their service on behalf of DeafACT and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

11. The AGM meeting closed at 10:34am.