



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

## **2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Saturday 4th December 2021**

*Location:*

**Yerrabi Ponds Park – Wunderlich Street, Gungahlin, ACT 2912**

*Time:*

**10:45am for 11am start**

### **AGENDA**

1. Open/Welcome
2. Attendance
  - 2.1. In attendance
  - 2.2. Apologises
  - 2.3. Proxies
3. Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM 2021) – attached
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Presentation of the Annual Financial Statement
6. Appointment of Returning Officer and scrutineers to receive nomination and oversee election
7. Election and induction of office bearers
  - 7.1. Proxies reminder
  - 7.2. President
  - 7.3. Vice-President
  - 7.4. Secretary
  - 7.5. Treasurer
  - 7.6. Public Officer
  - 7.7. Committee members (up to 10)
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. Additional business
  - 9.1. Acknowledgements
10. Announcement of date, place and time of next AGM (December 2022)
11. Close



Deaf Advocacy, Sports & Recreation ACT Inc. – Trading as DeafACT

## 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – 2.15pm*

John Knight Memorial Park – Townsend Place, off Aikman Drive, Belconnen, ACT 2617

### MINUTES

#### 1. Open/Welcome address by President Ricky Bryan – Meeting Opened at 2.18pm

The President welcomed all members to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. The President also acknowledge the land on which the meeting is occurring and paid his respect to the elders' past and present.

The President thanked everyone for their time to come to the meeting and reminded the audience if anyone wants to become DeafACT members and vote at this AGM, they need to fill the membership forms before we start. The membership fee is currently \$10.

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.  
10 Members/Observes presented. See below of their signatures.

##### **DeafACT Board/Committee:**

Ricky Bryan  
Louise Irvine  
Juliet Dowling  
Brooke Pape  
Jacob Clarke  
Amanda Sullivan  
Claire Young

##### **Members:**

Vera Hall  
Max Hall  
Anne Madden  
John Madden  
Ian Slinn  
Cathy Bryan  
Ivan Dolejší  
Chloe Nash-Shannon  
Sheree Murray  
Daniel Shannon

Helen Trendos  
Warren Love  
Chad Bins  
Zara Maxwell-Smith  
Anastasia Jongsong  
Greg Ophel  
Ian Roach  
Mark Parkinson  
Tegan Tisma  
Alex Carr  
Diana Ciuffetelli  
Shannon Baker  
Christine Yerbury  
Jack Rogers  
Ian Trelloggen

##### **Interpreter:**

Amanda Dolejší  
Sheree Murray

Apologies:  
No apologies



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

**2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Saturday 5th December 2020

Location:

John Knight Memorial Park – Townsend Place, off Aikman Drive, Belconnen, ACT 2617

Time:

2pm for 2.15pm start

**ATTENDING**

Name	Signature	Name	Signatures
1. Ricky Bryan (President)		28. Mark Parkinson	
2. Louise Irvine (Secretary)	<i>L.Irvine</i>	29. Tegan Trima	
3. Juliet Dowling (Treasurer)	<i>J.Dowling</i>	30. Brooke Pape	
4. Brooke Pape (Committee)	<i>B.Pape</i>	31. Alex Carr	
5. Jacob Clarke (Committee)	<i>J.Clarke</i>	32. Diana Cuffele	
6. Amanda Sullivan (Committee)		33. Shannon Baker	
7. Claire Young (Committee)	<i>C.Young</i>	34. Christina Yehbury	
8. Vera Hall	<i>V.Hall</i>	35.	
9. Max Hall	<i>M.Hall</i>	36.	
10. Anne Modde	<i>A.Modde</i>	37.	
11. John Modde	<i>J.Modde</i>	38.	
12. Ian Slavin	<i>I.Slavin</i>	39.	
13. Cathy Gillan	<i>C.Gillan</i>	40.	
14. Felicia Gillan	<i>F.Gillan</i>	41.	
15. Amanda Ballasi	<i>A.Ballasi</i>	42.	
16. Ivan Koleski	<i>I.Koleski</i>	43.	
17. Chloe Nash-Shannon	<i>C.Nash-Shannon</i>	44.	
18. Sheree Murray	<i>S.Murray</i>	45.	
19. Baird Shannon	<i>B.Shannon</i>	46.	
20. Helen Trendos	<i>H.Trendos</i>	47.	
21. Lauren Love	<i>L.Love</i>	48.	
22. Chad Bass	<i>C.Bass</i>	49.	
23. Zara Maxwell-Smith	<i>Z.Maxwell-Smith</i>	50.	
24. Anastasia Jorgensen	<i>A.Jorgensen</i>	51.	
25. Amanda Sullivan	<i>A.Sullivan</i>	52.	
26. (AN) Coach	<i>(AN) Coach</i>	53.	
27.		54.	

Jack Prges  
Ian Treloggen

No Proxies

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

**3.1 Matters arising from the 10th AGM**

Chloe Nash was an additional apology.

**Motion:** The Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> AGM, accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**Moved:** Ricky Bryan

**Seconded:** Jacob Clarke

Motion carried.

**4. Presentation of the 2019-2020 Annual Report**

The President (Ricky Bryan) started by saying that every year that the preceding July seems a long time ago and never has that been more true than in 2020, the year of the pandemic.

“Of the pandemic, let me acknowledge the unique impacts of the situation upon the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing community. Social isolation has always been a challenge for us and this

pandemic has only heightened that. Many of us also felt the economic pain and let's not forget what masks do for lip reading!

But through it all I have seen the community support each other, DeafACT and many other organisations shifted and tried to offer our support and services online and I feel that coming on the back of the bushfires that we have turned a corner on access to Auslan interpreters for important announcements that will never go back.

But now to the chronology, July 2019 started with captioned screenings of Spiderman and the Lion King, it is also worth noting that around this time Hoyts Woden started to offer open captions as a regular part of their service, which while Deaf ACT still promotes these screenings it means we no longer have to negotiate ad hoc screenings with Limelight.

In August we were able to announce the securing of ILC funding from the NDIS to create linkages in the community and build capacity. With this funding we were able to employ our first ever staff member, initially Claire Young, a cochlear wearer herself and then later Vani Mittal. This funding allowed us to put on free events and we thank Secretary Louise Irvine for her work on this grant.

Also in August, the ACT hosted Deaf Australia CEO Kyle Miers giving the first ever address at the National Press Club in Auslan on 21 August and later that week a ground breaking event with the Canberra Raiders on 25 August wearing Auslan signs on their jerseys, featuring Auslan for game day announcements and a deaf team playing at half time.

In September, Liberal MLA and great friend to the Canberra Deaf Community, Nicole Lawder took up our cause for greater mental health support for the community to the floor of the assembly. Her work and the work of a few advocates such as our own Amanda Sullivan and Mandy Dolejší ensured a review by the ACT Government into this issue. Around this time Amanda joined our board in the official advocate role. Claire also transitioned from employee to board and we have appreciated her skills at event management. At this stage let me thank the rest of the board also for their continuing work.

Amanda was featured in the Canberra Times for her advocacy.

On 13 December we held a parents and children morning tea as our first funded event and on the 16<sup>th</sup> we held last years' AGM.

In January as the bushfire crisis worsened DeafACT and our community advocated formally and firmly for access to emergency information after earlier ACT Emergency broadcast fell short of best practice. These efforts we recognised with a much improved response to Auslan interpreters and captions. We note the herculean efforts of some of our local interpreters who were covering off both federal and territory announcements.

In January this year the national cricket inclusion championships took place with Rona Lazo-Treloggen, Diana Ciuffetelli, Chloe Nash-Shannon and Heather Ratford Mertin taking part in other state teams, hopefully over time we can grow to have our own team one year. On the 16<sup>th</sup> February we held another of our funded events, a free barbeque held in Weston Park attended by many old and new faces, as one long-time community members remarked to me "It looks like DeafACT is going from strength to strength".

Another quote from a young child attending that day reported to us was "I love my new Deaf family." If that doesn't say why we do this nothing does.

At this stage in the year the pandemic really hit, and sadly we were forced to delay and then cancel our recognition night commemorating ten years of DeafACT. We were able to utilise

some of the funds in subsequent events and get the certificates and gift cards out via the mail.

Throughout the shutdown period we tried various means to foster community with reviews, recipes, trivia and other fun social media content. We also saw the cancellation of many national and international deaf sporting fixtures including us hosting the Australian Deaf Netball championships.

We have in the background been using NDIS funds to work with consultants Isobar to develop a new business plan to guide our growth in future years.

And this sadly brings me to end of our our time period and the end of my time as both a board member and President. I leave knowing that since June this year we have secured funding from Services Australia and with Deaf Sports Australia, the ACT Government. When I started with DeafACT we relied solely on community fundraising and hard work and it was a dream of mine for us secure the funds to have a home finally and staff. With the prior NDIS funding and these new grants we are on our way. And whilst I am sad to be leaving at such an exciting time it's important for new people and new leadership to have a go and for me to have some time to rest. I will be an enthusiastic supporter of the next exciting stage.

I have made many friends and acquaintances over the last seven years and had experiences such as playing for the ACT in Touch and Futsal that I'd never have thought possible, my thanks to you all for welcoming me and my family into your community."

The President thanked Louise Irvine and asked everyone to acknowledge the work she had put in on the Grants.

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

**Moved:** Ricky Bryan

**Seconded:** Chloe Nash-Shannon

Motion carried.

## 5. Presentation of the 2019-20 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 2019-20 financial year.

**Moved:** Juliet Dowling

**Seconded:** Louise Irvine

Motion carried.

## 6. Appointment of the Returning Officer and scrutineers

The Acting President stood down from the Chair.

Ricky Bryan was appointed Returning Officer by general agreement of the meeting.

## 7. Election and Induction of office bearers

### 7.1 Proxies reminder

We have one proxy for the position of Treasurer

**7.2 President** One nomination – Jacob Clarke was nominated off nomination form. Jacob accepted and was elected unopposed.

**7.3 Vice President:** One nomination – Louise Irvine was nominated off nomination form. Louise 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 – Juliet Dowling was nominated off nomination form. Juliet accepted and was elected unopposed.

**7.6 Public Officer:** No nominations. This position remains vacant.

**7.7 General Committee Members (up to 10 positions):**

**From the nomination form:**

- Brooke Pape
- Claire Young

Brooke and Claire were accepted and elected unopposed.

Congratulations to the DeafACT Board of 2019-2020:

**President:** Jacob Clarke

**Vice-President:** Louise Irvine

**Secretary:** Louise Irvine

**Treasurer & Public Officer:** Juliet Dowling

**General Committee:** Brooke Pape & Claire Young

Jacob takes over the chair from Ricky.

The incoming President thanks the outgoing President for his service over the last seven years and presents him with a thank you gift on behalf of the board.

## **8. Appointment of Auditors**

**Motion:** That the existing Accountant will continue next year.

**Moved:** Jacob Clarke

**Seconded:** Louise Irvine

Motion carried.

## **9. Additional Business**

9.1 Zara Maxwell-Smith acknowledged the efforts of Gail Cox and Josh Ophel for their hard work to create a great first year of school for Max and Sophie despite all the difficulties of 2020. It is the first time Auslan support has been offered this early in school in Canberra.

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

It was agreed that the newly committee would discuss and set a date and time for the next AGM possible in December 2021.

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

**The AGM meeting closed at 2.47pm.**