

# MINUTES

## Latrobe Valley Dodgeball League

---

*Date: Sun 22/11/20 | Time: 2pm | Meeting called to order by Mitch Howell*

*Minutes taken and prepared by Scott McAlpine*

---

### In Attendance

---

Current Committee members: President: Mitch Howell, Vice President: Adam Kemna, Secretary: Scott McAlpine, Treasurer: Vacant, Social & Fundraising Coordinator: Nekeisha Dillon

Returning Officer: Jarrad Keddie

League Members Present: Ash Brown, Rachael Howell, Damian Anderson.

Apologies received: Cassie Keys, Justin Lay.

---

### Agenda items discussed

---

**Introduction** - Welcome to all members from the President to the AGM. Agenda for meeting outlined and housekeeping rules for our Covid19 Safe AGM meeting via Google Meetings advised by President. No objections to Jarrad Keddie as Returning Officer.

**EOFY report** – Budget is sitting at \$12,682 as of 30/6/20. This report is available for anyone who requests a copy. Points of interest - LVDL also received 2 Victorian State Government grants totaling \$1500 to support us during Covid19. This was used to cover insurance renewals given the uncertainty when return to play would occur and to prevent having higher premiums being charged if coverage was cancelled and then applied for at a later date.

**Plans for the league moving forwards** – To continue to maintain strong, steady and sustainable growth. To promote dodgeball in the Latrobe Valley & encourage/help facilitate our players to compete in VDL and beyond. LVDL's goal is further development of members in leadership roles with the new Subcommittee positions and to help spread the workload and prevent burn out. The Subcommittee is designed to free up the executive committee to focus on other issues pertaining to league growth and functions. LVDL is looking to plan more/alternate tournaments with the hopes of eventually establishing a women's competition (to further engage women in our sport as this is one of our biggest challenges as a mixed league) moving forwards. LVDL is also looking to purchase ball nets when these can be stored and justified.

**Covid19 & its challenges** – Play has been restricted due to Covid19 from the ever changing conditions and rules surrounding interactions and indoor play. The executive committee wants the league to know that behind the scenes we are working in accordance and are subject to the Australian Dodgeball Federation, Victorian State Government and Latrobe Leisure requirements, rules and laws. We have put guidelines in place for safe play, consisting of real time sanitation of equipment and a sign-in register for tracking. Our goal is for return to play to commence as soon as is safe and to cultivate interest in dodgeball and participation as restrictions ease. The executive committee has found that online engagement has lagged over time due to Covid19 restrictions, with interest in internal isolation challenges wavering. Our plans/options for future return to play include training rounds or shorter/longer seasons depending on when active play returns. Player safety both from Covid19 and potential for injury due to inactivity are foremost in the committees mind. It should be noted that players will no longer be able to attend and play if they are sick at all.

The committee would also like to apologize for the late distribution of medals and trophies from last season. Given the unprecedented changes Covid19 has brought, we had no idea we would be away from play, or being able to host a presentation, for so long. During our forced absence, the committee has spent this time building its Covid19 safety plan, reviewing and developing policy and internal materials, rewriting the LVDL constitution and developing the subcommittee's roles.

**Constitution Review & Vote** – The committee has reviewed and restructured the current constitution. This was communicated to all members and emailed to those that requested it for perusal in advance of the meeting. The reason for this change is that the needs of the league have grown and evolved, requiring this critical document to be adapted to meet new challenges and changes and to more clearly define our processes. Key features include points of clarification which have been added to better suit the league and our position and to meet Consumer Affairs guidelines more accurately. The focus areas have been; closing gaps, clarifying legal aspects and the LVDL's position and around voting criteria. If a vote to approve this new version is passed, this will be submitted to consumer affairs for their approval by the secretary.

**Vote Cast** – Unanimous YES vote. Motion has passed.

**Community Safety – Rumors, Reporting and Proceedings** – There had been recent serious accusations against a former LVDL member on social media regarding abuse towards minors. The league wants to make its position understood and make members aware of our processes for when this occurs. When the league becomes aware of rumors or accusations, our process is to contact authorities (police) and to seek their advice and recommendations. Police have advised that different restrictions can exist in different cases with different people. If there is a breach of conduct by a member, then police will handle it and if relevant, the offending parties will cease attending league events. It is important to note that the league might not even be advised of the outcomes of our inquiries due to privacy aspects.

Examples of restrictions may include not being allowed to be in a leadership position, not being around minors unsupervised or even no restrictions. The league encourages people to report serious issues so that they can be followed up. Community and player safety and wellbeing is our foremost area of concern.

**Committee Benefits** – Dinner once per season review & re-vote – As voted in the 2019 AGM, Committee members were allowed to have a dinner function once per season to a cap of max \$50 per head (no alcohol) from the league budget. The purpose behind this is to prevent degradation of mental health/burn out as it is recognized that without a healthy and functioning committee, the league would suffer as a whole. This has occurred once to date since last AGM.

\*New amendment proposed, seeking to also include the new positions of sub-committee members as part of this vote as well. Two vote items have been cast to apply this benefit again moving forwards for another year.

**Vote Cast** – To approve executive committee for above benefits – Vote = 4 Yes – Ash, Damian, Jarrad, Rachael, Mitch, Scott, Nekeisha, Adam – abstained, conflict of interest. Motion passed.

**Vote Cast** – To approve sub-committee for above benefits – Vote = 7 Yes – Damian, Jarrad, Rachael, Mitch, Scott, Nekeisha, Adam. Ash – Abstained, conflict of interest. Motion passed.

**Removal of Social and Fundraising Coordinator Position** – It is proposed to remove the afore mentioned position and replace it with a General Committee Member Position. The title itself restricts what actions are actually undertaken by the person in it, effectively “pigeon holing” them to set tasks/functions. This title doesn’t represent all of the work/capabilities that is undertaken by the current holder of this position. Adversely, when a large function is upcoming, it is viewed as one person’s job rather than a group effort, which is not ideal.

The purpose of this is to better assist the league moving forwards by allowing functions to be more of a group effort (potentially handled by a designated work group or sub-committee) and to allow the person in the position more freedom to assist with a variety of tasks .

**Vote Cast** – Unanimous YES vote. Motion passed.

**Thanks and Acknowledgements** – A big thank you to the current executive committee for their work and services since the last AGM. Thanks also to Jo Laukens who vacated the Treasurer Role mid-year for her support.

**Open questions & suggestions** - None

**Voting and Nominations –**

President- Mitch Howell was nominated by Scott McAlpine and seconded by Adam Kemna with no contest and accepted the position.

Vice President- Nekeisha Dillon was nominated by Scott McAlpine and seconded by Adam Kemna with no contest and accepted this position.

Secretary – Scott McAlpine was nominated by Mitch Howell and seconded by Damian Anderson with no contest and accepted this position.

Treasurer – Adam Kemna was nominated by Mitch Howell and seconded by Scott McAlpine with no contest and accepted this position.

General Committee Member – Damian Anderson was nominated by Mitchell Howell and seconded by Scott McAlpine with no contest and accepted this position.

The Newly Voted Committee would like to thank everyone who was able to attend for their support and participation in proceedings. Thank you to all new position holders.

**Meeting Closed**

---

Budget

---

Account currently sitting at \$12,682 as of 30/6/20.