

# MINUTES

## Latrobe Valley Dodgeball League

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*Date: Sun 22/10/23 | Time: 2pm | Meeting called to order by Damian Anderson*

*Minutes taken and prepared by Scott McAlpine*

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### In Attendance

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Current Committee members: President: Damian Anderson, Vice President: Mitch Howell, Secretary: Scott McAlpine, Treasurer: Ben Conway, General Committee Member: Shannon Nikodemski

Returning Officer: Ash Linahan

League Members Present: Ruby Callaghan, Sarina Molinari, Brendan Greaves, Jade Shepley, Alex Ashman, Vanessa Fairburn, Terry Campbell, Jacob Hunt Ricky Kemp, Jakey Rae, Nathan Nikodemski

(Ash Brown via online)

Apologies: Wyatt Dare, Leonard Campbell

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### Agenda items discussed

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**Introduction** - Welcome to all members from the President to the AGM for 2023. The agenda for the meeting was provided and housekeeping rules advised. No objections to Ash Linahan functioning as Returning Officer.

**EOFY report & Operating Budget** – Budget is sitting at \$17427 as of 30/6/23. This report is available for anyone who requests a copy.

**Community Hub Project** – Now commonly referred to as “The multi-use sports hall” - The project is going ahead with this venue being on McNairn Road, Traralgon and will be shared with Gippsland Roller Derby and Gippsland Equestrian Club. There are concept plans available and a group chat for those who are interested in following and contributing. The plans include space for 3 dodgeball courts, gender neutral toilets, a kid’s play area, and a meeting room. We will have the possibility to have trophy display cases, which will allow us to display and backdate awards.

It is likely that LVDL will need to pay for the drop down nets after the venue has been built.

The governance of the venue is to be determined in the future (ie - cleaning, paying court hire or managing court allocation, etc). LVDL operational costs will likely increase at that time. Seeking to get timber or vinyl flooring.

Acknowledgements to Bodye Darvill for her contributions and guidance in helping initiate and grow this project.

**Post Committee consultation access (ADF & Hub projects)** – Mitch Howell has accepted a position on the Australian Dodgeball Federation (ADF) board of directors. In order to help the ADF grow and develop and to continue to assist with the ongoing Community Hub project, Mitch is seeking to retain post AGM access to LVDL programs and resources including but not limited to Emails, shared drives for policies/files and Facebook. The reason for this is that this will help him (and LVDL) to further grow and improve Dodgeball in Australia overall by sharing information. Example – Sharing policies that can help with standardisation processes, or to improve other grassroots leagues.

Mitch has stated that holding this position has not altered the processes for any of the current escalation procedures within LVDL. He has advised he cannot act as a “step over” to override the current Executive Committee in their decisions and processes.

Motion – To authorise the creation of the consultant role for Mitch Howell, allowing him to access Committee data & resources but without influence and oversight of the Executive Committee and its functions.

Votes – Yes (Unanimous), 1 abstain – Mitch Howell. Motion passed.

**Referee’s and Volunteers – Ref Course Training** – Moving forwards, Ash Brown is currently working through organising and running a new referee course. It would be awesome to see members stepping up and undertaking this. Please note - You are not automatically required to actively referee if you take the course.

This course can also be taken to improve your understanding of the game.

For those who want to practise in a low pressure situation, this seasons scratch matches are a good way to practise this role and gain experience.

For those requiring support, we can help with referee shadowing. This may mean that an experienced referee will be present and just stand with you and watch how you go and offer support or advice, or for you to shadow and watch an experienced referee (eg Ash Brown) perform their role.

It is important to mention that the lack of referee’s is a big factor affecting the ability of the league to further grow dodgeball. If you are interested in signing up or offering support or just want to talk to someone and get more info, please reach out to Ash Brown or the Executive Committee.

**Teachers Games Event** – There was a Teachers game event in September where people came to play locally. A big thank you to Adam Kemna for organising and running this event and to Tegan Svetina, Adam Kemna, Ricky Kemp, Ash Linahan, Tara Skellerup and Clancy Bassett for assisting with umpiring. This event will be returning in September 2024. This may lead to LVDL hosting clinics or schools events in the future if this goes well.

#### **Summary of outcomes over the last 12 months –**

We have moved/upgraded from Court 6 to Court 1.

We have had local representatives compete at state and international levels.

The Community Hub Project has been confirmed and is progressing along.

The league has seen new and more players engaged overall.

The Victorian teacher’s games was held locally.

We have the new “Scratchies” team playing every second Sunday to help induct new or team less players.

Belinda from GRISS will no longer be our main point of contact moving forwards. A new staff member Jess

Yeates will be our new central point of contact.

## **Open Questions & Suggestions –**

Q) Ricky Kemp – Can we limit the number of Ball Shaggers that can participate in finals? This is not always evenly allocated across both teams and may cause unfair advantages?

A) Generally with ball shagging, it is up to each team to organise their own people to assist. To avoid confusion, it may be relevant to limit how many ball shaggers can assist. If a team has no shaggers, 1 person can put up their hand to exit the court to retrieve balls.

The onus is on each team to organise people in advance. Spectators are not automatically obligated to assist if asked. To enforce and monitor participation would present a problem in real time (as referees are busy watching the gameplay primarily).

In context - It is important to remember that we are a social league.

A limit of 3 shaggers (not including players who are out) could be applied for finals. The players who are out would then stand to the side of the court in the order they went out to ensure the correct re-entry order from subsequent catches. This practice occurs in other dodgeball leagues.

The general consensus - it was agreed that this would be something that should be attempted for finals, as resources allow. This will be followed up as part of finals organisation by the Executive Committee.

Q) Ash Linahan – Can we pay score/time keepers for all finals games? Also teams may take too long to set up between sets, thereby running down the clock, can this time be added back in?

A) As resources allow, a scorer (in addition to G.O.) would be paid and the time can be paused between sets to remove the issue of people wasting time to run down the clock.

Generally, the role of score/time keeper is the Game Officials responsibility to manage or delegate to someone.

A factor to consider in regard to adding time back in - this can be limited by the court booking availability times at GRISS. If it is reasonably possible, this function should be applied during finals. This is something the Executive Committee will factor in for the next round of finals.

Note - If the scorer forgets, the option can be given to add the missing time back in.

## **Thanks and Acknowledgements –**

A big thank you to the current Executive Committee and Sub Committee for all their hard work since the last AGM. Your hard work has been appreciated.

Many thanks to Mitch Howell for his hard work and dedication in helping to develop the league to this point and into the future as he steps down from the Executive Committee and onto the ADF board continuing his work growing dodgeball, now at the national level.

Many thanks to Nekeisha Dillon for her contributions in many various committee positions and social coordination roles over the years. We wish her well as she moves into her future dodgeball journey, now playing on both Cloth and Foam teams.

Welcome to Ruby Callaghan and Vanessa Fairburn into the social media content creation space. They have been approved by the Executive Committee to take photos and video's as representatives of LVDL, so please say hi if you see them going about their duties. Note - their content will be reviewed by the Executive Committee where issues of privacy arise.

**Voting and Nominations –**

No requests were received for clarification of any Executive Committee roles and duties before voting. The current Executive Committee is now dissolved and Returning Officer Ash Linahan commenced the nomination process.

**President-** Damian Anderson was nominated by Mitch Howell and seconded by Shannon Nikodemski with no contest and accepted the position.

**Vice President-** Shannon Nikodemski was nominated by Mitch Howell and seconded by Vanessa Fairburn with no contest and accepted this position.

**Secretary –** Scott McAlpine was nominated by Shannon Nikodemski and seconded by Jacob Hunt with no contest and accepted this position.

**Treasurer –** Ben Conway was nominated by Damian Anderson and seconded by Mitch Howell with no contest and accepted this position.

**General Committee Member –** Jacob Hunt was nominated by Scott McAlpine and seconded by Vanessa Fairburn with no contest and accepted this position.

The New Committee would like to thank everyone for attending and offering their support and participation in the 2023 AGM proceedings. Thank you to all new position holders for their interest and engagement. Thank you to Returning Officer Ash Linahan for your assistance.

**Meeting Closed.**