



Minutes from AGM 24th November 2022 Hilton Hotel, Sydney

1. Attendance

The meeting formally commenced at 5.00pm

NAGS President; Mara Lovrin; opened proceedings and welcomed all in attendance.

Apologies were noted.

Present

Lovrin	Mara	Barrett	Leigh
Delfabbro	Paul	Bauer	Sonja
Single	Judi	Blaszczynski	Alex
Hare	Sarah	Brading	Richard
Harper	Erica	Bradow	Vjorn
Cochrane	Tracey	Broomfield	Amy
Calver	Nigel	Brown	Mitchell
Barraclough	Jessica	Delic	Amelia
Glenn	Louize	Strauss	Ron
Kanaan	Therese	Tomlinson	Glenn
Seungyeon	Kim	Tuguinay	Jovanie
McAnlen	David	Allies	Jabez
Roberts	Kate		

Apologies

Mary Marquess, Clive Alcock

2. Adoption of previous AGM Minutes

The minutes of the previous NAGS Annual General Meeting (AGM); held 2:30 pm Friday 8th April 2022 by Zoom were adopted.

Motion: That the minutes of the 2021 AGM (online) be accepted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Carried

3. Business Arising from Minutes of Previous AGM

No business arising from previous AGM

4. Chair's Report

NAGS as an 'Association has not remained the same over the past 30 years but as custodians of something of value, something of meaning that gives into the idea of a compassionate society, our resolve has been steadfast....

The National Association for Gambling Studies creates a forum that educates, inspires and informs members and the broader community on all aspects of gambling through conferencing & other modalities.

As the outgoing President of the National Association for Gambling Studies, I am delighted to welcome you all to our Annual General Meeting for 2021-2022.

Your National Committee has been working hard to strengthen the governance of the Association and to navigate NAGS through some extremely tough times.

In order to maintain the integrity of the Association, a number of sacrifices had to be made and I am proud to be standing here today supported by a committee who through sheer determination and commitment have kept the National Association for Gambling Studies alive and well.

As an Association, our members entrust in their Committee, an expectation to govern in such a manner where it can be reasonable for benchmarks to be reached. To measure the success of our governance as an organisation, I ask you to look at not the final destination or benchmark which is based obviously in the success of this conference and in our financial viability, but in the tough decisions that this Committee have had to make to survive.

The 30th Annual NAGS Conference in Sydney has been a long time in the making. Originally planned for November 2020, the conference has been postponed a number of times due to COVID. The Sydney Hilton initiated the first cancellation as the venue was not able to operate due to 'Lockdowns' and the consecutive rescheduling at the request of the NAGS committee. The decision to reschedule the Annual Conference, on two separate occasions, was unprecedented in NAGS history and placed a huge financial burden on the sustainability of NAGS as our membership base dropped by 30% during this time.

We have all been living in unprecedented times over the last 3 years. The committee have acted at all times to uphold the integrity of the Association and to comply with the Constitution as our governing framework. Operational deviations from normal process such as cancelling the conference, were discussed by the committee first and passed to our Regulators for approval then to our members. This has been our process in rescheduling the Sydney conference.

Thank you for staying with us....

Other decisions made by the committee have stabilised the day to day functioning of NAGS and our goals:

1. To grow and maintain membership
2. To grow conference attendance
3. Develop products that meet member needs
4. Financial sustainability
5. Good Governance
6. Effective operational infrastructure
7. Engage students

A key function of our AGM in the past has been the Election of Office Bearers and Nominees were presented to the AGM in April this year for the 2021- 2022 term. Current Committee members in office for the 2021-2022 term were:

- President: Mara Lovrin
- Vice President: Erica Harper
- Secretary: Mandy Tervit-Veasey
- Treasurer; Paul Delfabbro

VIC Representative, QLD Representative, NT Representative, WA Representative, SA Representative, TAS Representative, ACT Representative.

As our major achievement for the Association in 2022 besides, the conference will change the operation of the Association I am extremely proud to inform you all that the National Association for Gambling Studies (NAGS) conversion to a Company Limited by Guarantee was successful due primarily to the hard work, effortless work of three people: Mandy Tervit-Veasey, Anne Thornton & Erica Harper.

Our new Office Bearers on the Board of Directors for the National Association for Gambling Studies are Mandy Tervit-Veasey, Tracey Cochrane, Erica Harper, Sarah Hare, Nigel Calver, Paul Delfabbro and Mara Lovrin.

Chairperson of the Board of Directors - Judi Single

I know that you will all join me in wishing our new Directors well.....

Other achievements included:

A submission to the Minister for Social Services to support NAGS for the Conference in 2022 and ongoing. The application for funding for the 2022 Conference was not successful but the Minister Amanda Rishworth MP would review our application in the future.

A review of the National Association for Gambling Studies Strategic Plan to be undertaken

Further development of Webinars-ongoing

Re-engage with researchers, academics, therapists, regulators, and anyone interested in the gambling space.

We said good-bye to a number of NAGS Committee Members in 2022.

- Ruth Rowlands Tasmanian Representative
- Rod West Western Australia
- Keis Ohtsuka Victoria
- Julie Seager Northern Territory Representative
- Leanne Strommen Western Australia

Let us all thank them for their contributions to NAGS. Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the NAGS committee, the Conference Organising Committee and to Nick, Anne & the team at AES Services who were always there to advise us and support us.

As this report reflects, much has been achieved and there is still much to be achieved. As outgoing President, the most personally satisfying achievement has been to carry on the work of our previous presidents and to have worked in a culture of inclusivity and positivity. May your resilience and resolve to promote a better understanding of all aspects of gambling through communication and knowledge continue into the future. May the ripple on effect be the creation of more informed and compassionate societies where the psychology of gambling is understood at all levels.

It has been my absolute pleasure to be part of NAGS for over 10 years now and the President for the last 2 years. A heartfelt thank you!

Mara Lovrin

Motion: That the President's Report is accepted by the meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Carried

5. Secretary's Report

Due to the Pandemic, the past couple of years has seen lots of changes, challenges, and improvements for NAGS. Navigating decision making processes as a Committee has been challenging at times and at the end of the day it always comes back to improving our understanding of what our members want.

Unfortunately, our membership base has dropped 30% since the beginning of the Pandemic. We recently completed a new Constitution, which was ratified in September 2022 at a Special General Meeting by its members. The new Constitution has allowed us to move to a Company by Limited Guarantee. Therefore, changing the structure of the national committee to a Board, with Board Member's, a Secretary and Chairperson. These are exciting times ahead, allowing us to concentrate on a Strategic Plan, growing our membership and providing more value to our members. This is a very important chapter in NAGS history and how the Association establishes a path forward in such a complex gambling environment in Australia.

This year I would like to acknowledge the members, particularly those that volunteer for various sub-committees and other roles and more broadly for the ongoing support, feedback, and guidance that you provide. Furthermore, I would also like to acknowledge those Committee members who have recently left and thank them for their continued support throughout the year.

I am happy to announce that my position as NAGS secretary will continue throughout 2022-2023.

Motion: That the Secretary's Report is accepted by the meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Carried

6. Treasurer's Report

2021/2022 Financials were made available to the members

Ms Susan Barbour
Baumgartner Audit Pty Ltd
Level 1, 35 Cotham Road
KEW VIC 3101

Dear Susan

REVIEW FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

This representation letter is provided in connection with your review of the financial report of the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc (the entity) for the year ended 30 June 2022, for the purpose of you expressing a conclusion as to whether anything has come to your attention that causes you to believe that the financial report of the entity is not prepared, in all material respects,

in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report.

We acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that the financial statements of the Association have been drawn up so as to fairly present the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and performance for the year ended on that date.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your review.

1. We have made available to you:

a. All financial records and related data, other information, explanations and assistance necessary for the conduct of the review; and

b. Minutes of all meetings of shareholders and directors.

2. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial report may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

3. There:

a. Has been no fraud or suspected fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations involving management or employees who have a significant role in the internal control structure;

b. Has been no fraud or suspected fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations that could have a material effect on the financial report; and

c. Have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning non-compliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices that could have a material effect on the financial report.

4. We are responsible for, and have established and maintained, an adequate internal control structure to prevent and detect fraud and error and to facilitate the preparation of a reliable financial report and adequate financial records have been maintained. All material transactions have been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial report.

5. We have no plans or intentions that may affect materially the carrying values, or classifications, of assets and liabilities.

6. The following have been recorded and/or disclosed properly in the financial report:

a. Related party transactions and related amounts receivable or payable, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements and guarantees (written or oral);

b. Arrangements involving restrictions on cash balances, compensating balances and line-of-credit or similar arrangements;

c. Material liabilities or assets (including contingent liabilities/assets);

d. Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised use are probable of assertion.

7. There are no violations or possible violations of laws or regulations the effects of which should be considered for disclosure in the financial report or as a basis for recording an expense.

8. The entity has satisfactory title to all assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets that have not been disclosed nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

9. The entity has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial report in the event of non-compliance.

10. No events have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date through to the date of this letter that would require adjustment to, or disclosure in, the financial report.

We understand that your review was made in accordance with Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400: Review of a Financial Report and was, therefore, designed primarily for the purpose of expressing a conclusion on the financial report of the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc for the year ended 30 June 2022, and that your procedures were limited to those which you considered necessary for that purpose.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Delfabbro

Treasurer

Motion: That the Treasurers's Report is accepted by the meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Carried

6.1 Appointment of Auditor

Motion: Appointment of Auditor; Baumgartners

Moved: Sarah Hare Seconded:

Nadine Grinblat

Carried

7. Election of Office Bearers for 2022-2023

for the NAGS National Committee; the names of those proposing and of those seconding the proposal of NAGS office bearers is provided below. Nominations were received for the positions were presented to AGM 2022 conference Attendees. Current Committee members in office for the 2022-2023 term as at the AGM are Chair Judie Single, Directors now appointed as a company by guarantee are Mara Lovrin, Mandy Tervit-Veasey, Erica Harper Nigel Calver, Sarah Hare and Tracey Cochrane

8. Other Business: Nil

9. NAGS 31st Annual Conference

NAGS 31st Annual Conference Is to be held in Adelaide at The Pullman Hotel on 15th – 17th of November 2023. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

10. Next Meeting

During the 2023 NAGS Annual Conference on the 16th of November 2023.

The meeting closed at

Chairman’s Signature

Date.....24th November2022.....