



Frank Zipfinger <frank.zipfinger@gmail.com>

SLOPES: AGM 28 November 2013 - Update

SLOPES <slopes.au@gmail.com>

14 November 2013 at 18:30

Bcc: frank.zipfinger@gmail.com

Dear SLOPES Members

Attached are copies of:

1. the AGM Notice dated 14 November 2013,
2. the Proxy Form as attached to the SLOPES Constitution, and
3. the draft minutes of the 2012 AGM.

By way of update:

1. Attendance and Voting at the AGM

There are no special items on the Agenda this year (last year we had an item to do with changes to the Constitution).

However, we have the usual items of Ordinary Business, some of which require a vote of Member Clubs.

The Proxy Form is attached for your use.

Clubs are encouraged to use this form either to appoint a person as their proxy to vote for them at the AGM or if no-one from your Club will be attending the AGM.

Completed proxy forms should be sent to the SLOPES Secretary at slopes.au@gmail.com to arrive no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Alternatively, some other evidence can be provided regarding the Club's voting appointee eg a letter from the Club on it's letterhead signed by the President, Secretary or other authorised officer confirming that your representative has been appointed to vote for the Club at the AGM.

As usual, we will be asking all attendees to sign the attendance book when they arrive at the AGM.

As we did last year, we will provide voting cards on the night (1 per Club) to the appointed representative for each Club.

So, please assist by arriving early with your proxy or other written authority - or, better still, please send these in advance to our Secretary on slopes.au@gmail.com so that the voting card can be ready for you on arrival

2. SLOPES Website

Here is the link to the SLOPES Website: <http://www.slopes.org.au/>

Currently on the homepage you will find a link to the AGM Notice.

Further updates will appear there including the audited 2013 financial accounts, and a copy of the President's Report a day or so before the meeting.

3. RSL Club - access guidelines

Please note the following guidelines:

SLOPES Members who are attending the AGM will not need to sign into the RSL club if they arrive shortly before the meeting and are not going to use any of the club's facilities.

Members who arrive early will be required to sign in and to produce identification as required by the club. It is recommended that members use the Victoria Avenue entrance to the club as Bar 446 is immediately to the

right at the top of the stairs located in the entry foyer. Street parking is very limited but there is ample parking in the Westfield shopping centre car park which is only a 5 minute walk from the club, the club is also very close to a major bus interchange and is next to Chatswood train station.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Regards

Frank Zipfinger
President
SLOPES

3 attachments



SLOPES Proxy Form.jpeg
171K

 **SLOPES AGM 2012 Draft Minutes.pdf**
190K

 **SLOPES notice AGM 2013-Final Draft.doc**
34K

Appendix 1

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

(name of SLOPES member club)

(the Club), by resolution of the committee/directors of the Club, hereby appoints

(full name and address of proxy)

, being a member of the Club, as its proxy to vote on behalf of the Club at the general meeting (being an annual general meeting or special general meeting as the case may be) of The Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher, Smiggins and Guthega Incorporated to be held on [date] and at any adjournment of that meeting.

- The proxy is authorised to vote as follows (complete as appropriate):

	For	Against	Abstain	Proxy Discretion
Resolution 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resolution 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resolution 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Signature of authorising office bearer of the Club)

(Full name of authorising office bearer of the Club)

(Position held)

Date: _____

Note: A proxy vote may only be given to a person who is a member of the Club. A proxyholder must be at least 18 years of age.

MINUTES OF THE 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SKI LODGES ASSOCIATION OF PERISHER, SMIGGINS AND GUTHEGA INC. (SLOPES) HELD ON 29TH NOVEMBER 2012 AT CHATSWOOD RSL COMMENCING AT 7.45PM

PRESENT:

President – Frank Zipfinger (Mirrabooka)

Committee – Bill Coombes (Hus-ski), Andrew Cutler (Kandahar), Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro), John Illy (CSIRO) David Read (Aurora), John Pinkerton (Tate), Noni de Carvalho (Turnak)

Member Clubs and their representatives:

Hus-Ski	Warwick Dean
Canberra Alpine	Ross Smith
Tate Ski Club	Lisa Worrall
Telemark	Pernille Jensen
Kandahar	Graeme Anderson
Boonoona	Mark Cooper, Carl Melvy
Oldina	Ian Muncaster
Guthega	Ross Downes
South Perisher	Sean Lee, Andrew Hill
Muniong	Rob Holdaway
Sundowner	Ross Thompson
Ku-ring-gai	Gordon Cox
Turnak	Roger Lucas
Karrilika	Cliff Brake
Narraburra	Warwick Mauer
Brindabella	James Lawrence
Clancy	Paul Schott
Moerlina	Peter Lettow, Mike O'Sullivan
Rugby	Tracy Tresidder
Alexandra	Mark Robins
Warrugang	Jane Ritchard
UAC	John Lembke
Technology	Ross Swan, Mal Thomsen, Mal Higgs
Kiandra	Mel Butow
Fjellheim	Belinda Hansen
Chez Jean	Jeannette Melvy
Lampada	Simon Gates
Port Kembla	Ross Livermore
Gunyah	N. Couper
Mawabu	Peter Zeilic
Windara	Jenny Wandl, Susanne Manion,
Wildspitze	David Beverley
Edelweiss	Greg and Robin Murray
Trissana	James Damien
Thirroul/Maranatha	Bruce Norton

Guests:

Peter Brulisauer – General Manager, Perisher Pty Ltd
Belinda Shore – Chamber of Commerce and Smiggins Hotel
David DiSanti – Perisher Musical Society
Phillip and Pam Woodman – Perisher Historical Society and Ku-ring-gai Club

Andrew Logan – Manager, Municipal Services Unit, KNP
Marko Kovac – Property Manager, KNP
Daniel James – Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Jindabyne Office

APOLOGIES

Roger Glover (Kandahar), Don Gowing (Munions), Andrew Harrigan (Manager Visitor and Business Services Unit, KNP), Ian Ward (Hus-Ski), Bill Hargreaves (Hus-Ski) and Jonathon Lillis (Ullr).

Frank Zipfinger, President, opened the meeting welcoming member club representatives and introducing the guests to the meeting.

Frank noted that Graeme Anderson, the previous President of SLOPES built a strong and productive relationship with other stakeholders in KNP represented by the guests and their support was acknowledged.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 20TH AGM HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2011

The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 17 November 2011 in Crows Nest were distributed to members prior to the Meeting. Copies were also provided at the Meeting. There were no questions arising from the Minutes.

David Read (Aurora) proposed, Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro) seconded – the Minutes were adopted and confirmed.

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2012

Copies of the full President's report prepared by Frank Zipfinger were distributed to those present. A copy of the President's Report was also circulated to members prior to the Meeting.

Frank chose to highlight the key matters from the report rather than read it in full because of its length. The key points highlighted were:-

1. SLOPES represent 100% of the club lodges in the Perisher Range Resorts. This means SLOPES can maintain its position and effectiveness in representing the interests of the club lodges.
2. The retirement of Don Gowing (Munions) and Roger Glover (Karrilika) from the Committee after many years of contribution and hard work for SLOPES.
3. Welcome for the new Committee member Mark Robins (Alexandra) and the return of Paul Schott (Clancy) to the Committee.
4. Back to Perisher Weekend continues to grow in popularity with record numbers participating in events this year. All lodges are encouraged to support Back to Perisher Weekend promoting out of ski season use and enjoyment of the Perisher area. Frank noted that next year Easter falls before the school holidays rather than in the school holidays but it has been decided to continue to hold Back to Perisher Weekend at Easter.

5. In the interests of safety for all club lodges SLOPES is continuing the discussions and battles with the Fire Brigade over closing of the Perisher Valley Fire Station outside the winter season.
6. The SLOPES website has been set up. All members were encouraged to view the website and provide comments and feedback for improvements.
7. Members were reminded of the importance of encouraging sport through their clubs. Clubs may consider having a dedicated Director whose role it is to focus on activities to promote snow sports. It was noted that the tax allowances for clubs relies on dedication to encouraging sports.
8. It was noted that the SLOPES membership levy was reduced this year. The Committee assessed that there were sufficient funds available for anticipated needs this year but the situation would be reviewed for next year as there were some matters coming up, for example, the IPART review of running costs in Perisher area. Matters such as IPART or new valuations may require additional funding for lobbying and/or assistance from consultants.
9. Members were reminded to buy the Park entry tickets at Sawpit as 95% of that revenue stays in KNP. It was noted that if purchased elsewhere, even in Jindabyne, only 35% stays in Perisher. The IPART estimates of future revenue from Sawpit are less than predicted through leakage with ticket purchases elsewhere. This will adversely affect the budget review by IPART for KNP.
10. Clubs were reminded that the alternative rental assessment by turnover will come in this year. The meeting was reminded that there is a sleeper point with the alternative assessment by turnover when Clubs run occasional levies for capital works to their lodges. The levy will be assessed as turnover. Consult with NPWS prior to raising a levy of Members after 1 July.

There were no questions arising from the President's Report.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2012

The Financial Statement and Auditor's Report were circulated to members before the Meeting and copies were available at the Meeting. A copy is attached to these Minutes. There were no questions from members concerning the Financial Statement and Auditor's Report.

The Financial Statement was adopted. Moved Mark Robins (Alexandra) and seconded Andrew Cutler (Kandahar).

The Auditor's Report was adopted and Stirling International was nominated as SLOPES auditors for 2013. Moved John Illy (CSIRO) and seconded David Read (Aurora).

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

There being no other nominations the Committee was elected.

Moved Frank Zipfinger, Seconded Bill Coombes

GENERAL BUSINESS

Prior to the Meeting the motion to adopt the Constitutional changes for SLOPES had been circulated to members. Frank briefed the meeting noting that the proposed changes followed the model constitution (replacing the model rules) and updating to allow electronic communication for calling and holding meetings. He also highlighted the voting provisions for SLOPES where the members of SLOPES are the club lodges and not individuals. Voting on issues requires that the club representative (one per club) be a nominated proxy of their club. Clause 2.1 requires membership to be a Co-operative or an Association that is a lessee of the NPWS. All Committee Members must be a member of a club. Following a question from David Beverley (Wildspitze) Frank noted that there is still more wording change required to the Model Constitution to deal with the SLOPES situation where the members are club lodges.

The Committee was delegated authority to finalise the required amendments to review the Constitution to suit the circumstances of SLOPES. Moved John Illy (CSIRO) and seconded Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro).

The changes to the constitution as circulated, and on that delegated basis, were adopted. Moved John Illy (CSIRO) and seconded Gerald Lynch (Kalymaro).

THE 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SLOPES CLOSED AT 8.03PM

Following completion of the formal business the Guest Speakers addressed the Meeting.

Peter Brulisauer – CEO Perisher

Peter thanked the clubs for their support and patronage. The winter season 2012 was the best in visitation and the best in terms of market share by comparison to Australian and New Zealand ski resorts. Clubs should also have had their best winter and if they have not they should be asking why. The company is positive looking forward and noted that there has been an increase in sales of Freedom Passes for 2013.

Perisher is still negotiating with Government on the development of the Perisher Village Centre and it is getting closer.

Major projects are focussing on snow making with \$20 million being invested in snow-making and a further \$1.5 million this summer to reduce the impact of seasonality and climate change on skiing. The electronic ticketing has provided useful information on usage and skiing patterns and demand for future snow-making and lift planning.

The proposed new chairlift at Guthega is yet to be approved but is expected soon. It will not be built this summer.

Following questions from the floor the following was noted:

- There are no plans to develop mountain bike tracks in Perisher in summer.
- There is no planning for cross country skiing to deal with climate change.
- Noted the Piper Creek lift and the sensitive environmental issues of the creek bridge to access the terrain park.

- The Perisher mobile app. has been successful but there is a problem with coverage. Optus is looking at upgrading to meet demand.
- The early closing of Guthega lifts requires the Guthega lodges and Guthega Alpine to collaborate with Perisher to make arrangements. Peter is keen to have more information on lodge occupancy [Frank reminded the meeting that occupancy information was confidential]. Brindabella indicated that it would be prepared to discuss the sharing of occupancy information.

Andrew Logan – Manager Municipal Services Unit KNP

The new Waste Transfer Station commenced operation last season. No problems on impact have been reported by the cross-country skiers or neighbours. Self-removal of waste is unacceptable because of the disruption to the area of individual lodges accessing the waste transfer station.

The guidelines for provision of waste holding facilities at the lodges have been released. Perisher has upgraded and 31 out of 95 premises in Perisher and 19 out of 31 premises in Smiggins have upgraded their holding facilities. The deadline for providing waste holding facilities at the lodges is 2 to 3 years. KNP wants to move away from wheelie bins as they are impractical in the snow. Notwithstanding the guidelines KNP is open to alternatives for waste holding areas at lodges to suit the circumstances of the lodge. Any questions should be directed to Tom Pinzone. In some situations lodges may arrange to share a facility but it must be within a lease area.

Street numbering is to be introduced for all premises. The number is based on the measurement of distance from the nearest intersection divided by 10. It is essential for emergency services and utilities to introduce the street numbering system.

The guidelines for managing grease traps have been finalised. The annual clean-out prior to the winter season is essential to avoid adverse impact on the sewage treatment works. Some lodges have received letters regarding their grease traps. Those that need replacing must be done so within 2 years.

Clubs were reminded that with the spring rains it was essential to maintain the land around their lodges including rubbish removal and weeding.

Major projects this summer include a new sewer line between the car park and Orana. There have been two breakages and the line must be replaced. The work will commence in February and will close Perisher Creek road for 10 weeks. There should be no interruption to sewage services.

Negotiations continue on getting a reticulated gas supply to Perisher, Smiggins and Guthega and it is progressing slowly with Elgas. Later in the evening following a question from the floor the meeting was advised that, while NPWS is keen to have articulated gas in the resort, there is difficulty in negotiating with Elgas as Elgas cannot see a viable business case for return on infrastructure investment. NPWS is engaging directly with Elgas to negotiate a licence agreement although NPWS may consider negotiating with other providers if there no progress. NPWS has encouraged Elgas to engage directly with the community and that SLOPES members consider putting together a business case, for example, in Guthega.

A question from the floor later in the meeting probed whether NPWS could assist in managing pricing of electricity on a bulk basis noting the 50% increase in electricity costs. The advice was that NPWS had little influence. Frank Zipfinger noted that SLOPES had previously looked at negotiating a bulk arrangement for the club lodges but there was minimal gain and not worthwhile.

A question from the floor later in the meeting raised concerns regarding the proposed use of guns in KNP and whether information on the location and use of guns could be provided on the NPWS website. The advice was that use of guns in KNP was to be carefully managed by NPWS and it required approval.

Daniel James – Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Jindabyne

Scott Reid has left Department of Planning and Neil Smith from Junee is contracted to assess fire safety and Building Code of Australia matters. He has experience in the Snowy Mountains area. Advice is still handled at the Jindabyne office.

The Department handled 32 development applications in the ski resorts this year for a range of developments of which 16 DAs were in the Perisher area (14 for Perisher Blue and 2 for the club lodges).

In the near future the Department is looking at continuing the building audit program started by NPWS in 2006. The target is to complete all outstanding upgrades and works within the next 12 to 18 months. The completion of the upgrade work will be acknowledged by the Department by letter.

The Department is also looking at cessation of use of the old oil heater tanks. The sites of the old tanks must be validated with the tanks either removed or emptied and filled with sand or foam to avoid contamination.

Frank Zipfinger noted that there was the opportunity for co-ordination between lodges to share the costs of having environmental analysis of old tanks carried out. [SLOPES had recently issued an email to Members on this.]

Daniel encouraged all clubs to consult with the Department early for ideas and advice before committing to any work on their lodges. He was aware of the closing of the Fire Brigade in Perisher in summer but there are no plans to require further upgrades of lodges because of that. He noted that the priority of the Department is that, in an emergency, occupants are able to have ample warning and get out rather than to save the building.

Questions from the floor noted the issue of new DAs triggering other upgrade matters to the lodges, for example, disabled access, that may be excessively onerous. Daniel stressed the need for early consultation with the Department to examine options and to find solutions. The case for unjustifiable hardship with extreme topography for access to some lodges was noted. Daniel advised that no Access Committee has been set up for the area to consider alternative solutions and cases of unjustifiable hardship.

Philip Woodman – Perisher Historical Society

PHS is steadily growing with 21 of the club lodges being members. This year PHS will be publishing "The Book" that will record history and anecdotes of the Perisher Range area and the club lodges. Philip requested that the member clubs provide PHS with its formation date, date of completion of their lodges and first date of occupation. He also stressed that PHS is keen to record information and recollections of people who have been part of the area for a long time.

The book "Australian Skiing – the first 100 Years" by Wendy Cross was launched at the annual dinner in June. Every lodge should seek to have a copy.

The next annual dinner of PHS will be held on 9 June 2013 (long weekend) at Maritz Lodge and the club lodges are encouraged to send representatives.

The meeting was advised that PHS is also working with Kosciuszko Huts Association (KHA) to prepare a history of the huts. Volunteers to assist in this work are also welcome. Phillip advised that KHA is fighting the use of guns in KNP.

David di Santi – Perisher Music Festival

The 5th Perisher Music Festival will be held on the June long weekend in June 2013. Organisers of the festival requested that the club lodges consider making beds available to visitors and performers and especially to promote the festival with lodge members. If interested in hosting a performer contact the festival organisers at info@snowymountainsofmusic.com.au Early bird tickets for \$99 are available.

Last year was the biggest yet and all commercial beds were full for the weekend. There were 150 folk, jazz and blues artists performing across 8 venues.

Marko Kovac – Property Manager, KNP

This year the Annual Gross Revenue (AGR) figures have been collated to get a feel for the impact on rental assessments. The assessment so far indicates that few lodges will be affected by the alternate assessment based on AGRs. Marko noted that clubs may have to manage the raising of levies for building works over a few years rather than 1 year as levies are assessed as AGR.

The Minister has closed the lease offer. 105 have taken up new leases out of a total of 125 premises. The new leases have to be taken up by May 2013. Marko noted that beds are still available for purchase should a club still be interested.

Following a question from the floor it was confirmed that the Accommodation Register kept by the clubs does not have to be forwarded to KNP but must be available for inspection on request by NPWS. NPWS acknowledged the privacy of the Registers. SLOPES is to liaise with NPWS to clarify the guidelines in this area.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.05PM AFTER WHICH REFRESHMENTS WERE AVAILABLE

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Frank Zipfinger
President



The Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher, Smiggins and Guthega Inc.
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013

The Annual General Meeting of The Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher, Smiggins and Guthega Incorporated will be held in "Bar 446", on the first floor of Chatswood RSL, 446 Victoria Ave Chatswood commencing at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 28th November 2013**.

AGENDA

Preliminaries:

1. Apologies.

Ordinary Business

1. Confirm the minutes of the 2012 Annual General held on 29 November 2012.
2. Receive the Annual Report of the Committee (President's Report).
3. Receive and consider and deal with the Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet (incorporating the Committee's Report).
4. Receive the Auditors Report.
5. Elect the Auditors and fix, or authorise the Committee to fix, the remuneration of the Auditors.
6. Elect the Committee Members in accordance with the Rules. Note: Nominations have been received only for the current Committee members to date.

Note: Copies of the documents listed in 2, 3 and 4 above will be available at the AGM and are available on the SLOPES website: www.slopes.org.au.

Conclusion

Bill Coombes
Secretary
14 November 2013

SLOPES AGM 2013

GUEST SPEAKERS

At the conclusion of the formalities of this year's Annual General Meeting, we have invited the following people, representing stakeholders relevant to SLOPES, whom Club Directors will want to talk to about matters. This gives you a chance to discuss issues face to face. We will be having short addresses from them as well.

We are pleased to have acceptances from the following speakers:

Peter Brulisauer	General Manager Perisher Blue
Andrew Harrigan	Manager Visitor & Business Services, NPWS
Marko Kovac	Manager, Property Services Unit, NPWS
Daniel James	Department of Planning & Infrastructure
Belinda Shore	Immediate Past President, Perisher Chamber of Commerce

In addition, we will be hearing from our special guest speaker, Zali Steggall, Barrister and former Australian Olympic medallist.