



THE SKI LODGES ORGANISATION
OF PERISHER, SMIGGINS AND
GUTHEGA INCORPORATED

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND
MINUTES OF THE 2000
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2000

Registered Office:

6 Arden Place
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086



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Ninth Annual General Meeting

28th November 2000

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the 2000 SLOPES Annual General Meeting. On behalf of the Committee I thank you for your attendance here tonight, and for your support over the last twelve months.

Your full support is what counts and the day any of you feel that SLOPES is not representing your interests in the right direction is the day that SLOPES dissolves.

A YEAR OF CHANGE:

SLOPES has undergone a major change in the last year, not in what we are doing, but in how we do it. Since our beginning we have relied on the dedicated work of principally Tony Whybrow in carrying out all the functions of recording, corresponding, financial control, member communication etc etc etc. and last September Tony was elected to Mosman Council and at the same time I was elected to Ku-ring-gai Council as Councillors.

This simply meant that there was no more time available. Being a Councillor requires some 40-80 hours per week of dedicated time.

Our Committee met in December to face up to the decision of continuance or folding up. The unanimous consensus was that SLOPES served a positive purpose, so continuance was a must, so we concentrated on the method of operations. The decision was made to appoint an Executive Officer to fill the vital and time consuming roles of operations, and to be more positive in using Committee Members to take on specialist tasks as they arose. The results have been pleasing and positive.

We appointed Bert Sheridan as Exec Officer on a retainer of \$10,000 a year and he has steadily lifted the workload off the presidential shoulders. Our basic income is approximately \$22,000 a year with a membership fee of \$250 per lodge, so we figure that with our current reserves we are stable for quite a few years to come. Our other main costs of course are travel to Jindabyne and back for meetings.

We have actively looked for new Committee Members so that the old guard can retire, and we have been successful, although we are still one short from the Smiggins area. What we look for are people who have been through the ropes in

that with our current reserves we are stable for quite a few years to come. Our other main costs of course are travel to Jindabyne and back for meetings.

We have actively looked for new Committee Members so that the old guard can retire, and we have been successful, although we are still one short from the Smiggins area. What we look for are people who have been through the ropes in their own Lodge Committees, so have a grasp of how their areas operate and how their members feel about issues.

A major and significant change in our method of operations this year has been the use of emailing for spreading of information. This has meant a large reduction in work load and cost. Faxstreaming is cumbersome, expensive and time consuming, and we are pleased to be rid of it. Bert has worked hard on this area and we now have over 90% of Members on email distribution. We look to 100% as soon as possible.

NPWS MANAGEMENT:

The most important reason for SLOPES existence is for liaising with NPWS, and here the interchange is frequent and productive. Tonight you will be hearing from Alistair Henchman of NPWS Queenbeyan on the future plans for the region. Alistair is heavily involved in bringing these plans through the required processes to fruition, and I suggest you use the opportunity after the meeting to get to talk with him. He has strong influence in our future destiny.

To Penny Spoelder I owe special thanks for interrupting her holidays to turn up tonight. The change of meeting date to suit me was at cost to her, and her cooperation was appreciated. As Resorts Manager she continues to push for our interests in the overall NPWS hierarchy and she will I am confident continue to be a good friend to SLOPES as long as we are responsible in our actions. I believe that our members who have approached her during the year when they have felt badly done by have received fair attention and response.

PERISHER BLUE:

We welcome Ashley Blondell tonight as he will be presenting to us his Ski Plan for the future. Ashley sent to us a copy of his massive Master Plan, and we were just about to submit a commentary on it to NPWS when Ashley suggested that our AGM might be an opportunity for all members to get a grasp of it. After this meeting we have a very narrow time frame of a few days to submit our comments to NPWS. There are many parts of the Plan that we will all look forward to, but there are a couple of issues where we see problems for which solutions need to be found.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICES CHARGES:

These continue to give the highest level of comment and antagonism from our members. Nobody likes taxes. The initiative introduced by Penny Spoelder had led to a format where twice a year we sit down with representatives from the Commercial Lodges, Perisher Blue and NPWS and go over the Budget for the next 12 months, and progress expenditure to date, in all the line items of where the cash

goes that makes up the Community Charges. We recently sent to all members the latest details, and the next review meeting is next week on the 7th December.

The main item affecting us is the distribution of the costs of the Sewage Plant reworks that are currently going on. We have been advised in the last few days that a formula has been finalised by NPWS and the net result will be that of the \$9.2m costs involved, the State Govt will pay \$6m, and the remaining \$3.2m will be split over existing lessees and the new proposed beds in a proportion of bed ratios of existing to new release.

The net result for you as Clubs will be a special levy approximately 88% of an annual CSU charge for your Lodge and we are negotiating with NPWS to get 2 years to spread the costs. So if your Lodge currently pays \$10,000 CSU per year, the special extra levy will be about \$8,800.

I can only say that unwelcome as it may be, the deal is as good as we could expect, and follows the lines of Section 94 charges levied by Local Governments in extracting from new developments a proportion of the costs that can be attributed to them. We have stalled the levies for over three years from when they were first announced, and as the work is now being finished there is really no more time to gain.

The exact numbers will be advised to you by NPWS before Xmas.

Works on roads will now take over as the predominant costs against the CSU charges for the next few years. Regrettably then Garbage will loom as the major cost item.

NPWS have employed an additional Engineer to keep progress running on getting work done in the short summer months, and SLOPES are satisfied with the skills being utilised, so that previous poor decisions are most unlikely to be repeated.

Stormwater Management:

V. P. Frank Walker has continued his representation on your behalf and it would appear that he has been successful in keeping the Working Group's output on a practical level.

Jindabyne Regional Waste Facility:

Keith Rodda has maintained our representation in this area, but reports that a stalemate appears to have developed in the total progress.

Manning of the Perisher Valley Fire Station:

The permanent staffing has been increased to a level of 4 following Union Representations. The total costs are paid on a NSW standard basis whereby 13.2% is paid by locals such as ourselves in proportion to a Lodges' insured value as a percentage of the total insured value in the area. SLOPES have checked the mathematics of the cost distribution and they appear to be correct as far as our

members are concerned. The major costs of 86.8% are paid by a central system made up from the NSW Govt and the Fire levies that show on your Insurance premiums.

It is little consolation to know that this same formula is used to spread the costs against your Local Councils where you live in Sydney or elsewhere. In Perisher we are in effect the local Council, so we have to pay the charges. The thought of four full time employees based in Perisher is irritating, but that is the way it is and we cannot change it.

Club Surveys:

In response to member requests we organised a Club Survey of how Clubs operate. Some 35 Clubs submitted data and they will get the survey response. To those of you who did not submit all I can say is that you were wrong. There is a wealth of information in this data that would be in my opinion invaluable to you as Committee Members in guiding your Lodges. Dave Read has run this project and is willing to make one more pass at it. I suggest you rethink your positions.

Contribution by NPWS Gate Collections to CSU:

This issue has not been dealt with by NPWS despite previous promises, and will be high on the agenda for SLOPES with Messrs Gillingham, Director General, and Fleming, Regional Director, in the coming year.

Parking at Perisher:

Boom gates will be installed this Summer to control access in the beginning/end of snow time.

Age of a Person:

As we have been unable to get an answer from NPWS as to the age when a child becomes a person, we have advised our members to adopt the age of 5 as in the LGA Act, and if it ever becomes an issue we will go to Court.

Allocation of new beds:

We still await advice from NPWS which we expect before Xmas, and have made submissions to NPWS on our points of view.

Land Valuations:

The 4 yearly review on Land Valuations is expected in 2000 so we have made representations on your behalf to the Valuer Generals Department in anticipation of their assessments.

Walker Inquiry:

We have advised members of our submissions to the Walker Inquiry. Yesterday I made a submission in person to Mr Bret Walker emphasising our points. I was impressed by his knowledge of our submission, and he was complimentary on our issues raised. The only definite point raised by him was that a Head Lease situation was not one envisaged by him.

Summer usage:

SLOPES efforts to create a New Years Eve activity at Perisher were highly successful. The Fireworks were spectacular amidst the Mountains, and the Man Hotel's all night Party was well attended. Perisher Blue ran the Quad Chair for three days and allowed very pleasant walks across the Plateau.

This coming New Years Eve the Man Hotel will again be running a New Years Eve party, the shop will be open, and Stables for dinner etc. Regrettably we could not find a sponsor for the Fireworks.

Following our representations to RTA, the link road from Guthega to Smiggins was graded in February, which although too late for last Season, will be handy this year for drivers wanting to cruise the area.

Retirements and New Blood:

This year we are losing the services of several of our oldest Committee members who have served you so well for many years.

Ian Dwyer, Geoff Lucas, and Richard Montgomery have contributed many, many hours of their time and positive sound advice that has kept SLOPES on the rails over the Years.

I can only ask for a demonstration from all of you by applause as a thank you for their services. We all owe a lot to them. Our success in SLOPES has always been the wide variety in skills that our Committee members have brought to the table and these three have been superlative in their contributions.

We have recruited to join our ranks Barry Doyle, Roger Glover and Bob Sim and this has kept our balance in Perisher and Guthega representation, but as mentioned above we are still looking for an additional Smiggins Member.

Financials:

As a Committee, SLOPES have always prided themselves on their professionalism, but we must admit that a chain of events has led to a non-perfect accounting presentation. Firstly we had a complete collapse of the Apple computer carrying our accounts, then in the reconstruction some data went to that land known as File Error. As this was all being rebuilt, an envelope carrying a batch of support documents vanished in transit. So we apologise for a slightly qualified set of audited accounts.

Appreciation:



Thank you, our members, for your continued support. We enjoy being on the Committee and feel that what we are doing is worthwhile for our families and friends. We look forward to a successful future as long as you the members feel we are worthwhile.

Graeme Anderson

President SLOPES

**MINUTES OF THE NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SKI
LODGES ORGANISATION OF PERISHER, SMIGGINS, AND GUTHEGA
INCORPORATED.**

**HELD AT CROWS NEST COMMUNITY CENTRE,
2 ERNEST PLACE, CROWS NEST
AT 8.00 PM ON TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2000**

The meeting commenced at 8.07 pm.

PRESENT

66 representatives of member lodges were in attendance

APOLOGIES

Ian Dwyer, Bruce Meldrum, Tony Whybrow.

ORDINARY BUSINESS

- 1. Confirm the minutes of the eighth Annual General Meeting held on 17 November 1999.**

Moved Anderson, seconded Curtis that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting(as circulated) held on 17 November 1999 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting - CARRIED

- 2. Receive the Annual Report of the Committee (President's Report).**

The President, Graeme Anderson, presented the Annual Report of the Committee (President's Report) to the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

- 3. Receive and consider and deal with the Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet.**

Moved Anderson, seconded Read that the Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet (as circulated) be adopted - CARRIED

- 4. Receive the Auditor's Report.**

Moved Anderson, seconded Read that the Auditor's Report (as circulated) be adopted - CARRIED

5. **To elect the Auditors and to fix, or authorise the Committee to fix, the remuneration of the Auditors.**

Moved Anderson, seconded Read that Stirling Warton Williams be appointed Auditors of the Association for the 2000-2001 financial year for a fee to be fixed by the Committee
- CARRIED

6. **To elect Committee Members in accordance with the Rules.**

The President advised that as only one nomination had been received for each position on the Committee, the following were declared to be duly elected:

Position	Nominee	Club
President	Graeme Anderson	Kandahar Ski Club Perisher Valley
Vice President (and Public Officer)	David Read	Aurora Ski Club Perisher Valley
Vice President	Frank Walker	Kosciusko Snow Revellers Ski Club Perisher Valley
Secretary	Christine Wild	ACTP Ski Club Guthega Village
Treasurer	Roger Glover	Karralika Ski Club Perisher Valley
Committee	Barry Doyle	South Perisher Alpine Club, Perisher Valley
Committee	Ian Dwyer	Kiandra Pioneer Ski Club, Perisher Valley
Committee	Richard Montgomery	Illawarra Alpine Club Smiggin Holes
Committee	Keith Rodda	Gunuma Lodge Smiggin Holes
Committee	Robert Sim	Blue Cow Ski Club Guthega Village

5. **MINI-SEMINAR ON LODGE MANAGEMENT**

David Read discussed the suggestion that SLOPES run a mini-seminar/workshop on lodge management in conjunction with an evening meal. Attendees would be addressed by invited specialists on income tax, land tax management, co-operative societies, etc. As more than half of the lodge representatives present indicated interest in attending such a seminar, it was agreed that SLOPES should organise such a seminar

SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. TO RECEIVE AND DEAL WITH ANY SPECIAL BUSINESS

The President invited members present to raise any special items of special business. There was a question for the floor regarding the timing of Community Services Charges payments.

There being no further business, the President thanked those present for their attendance and closed the formal part of the meeting at 8.37 pm. He then introduced Penny Spoelder and Alistair Henschman of NPWS (both of whom addressed the meeting of the procedures in place for obtaining the approvals necessary for development of the Perisher Area), and Ashley Blondell of Perisher Blue (who addressed the meeting on the future Ski Plan). The unofficial part of the meeting concluded with refreshments at 11pm.

G. Anderson
President

C Wild
Secretary