South Australian Athletic League

AGM Minutes

TUESDAY 7TH JULY 2026

CLUB MARION, 262 STURT ROAD, MARION 7.00pm

Members were welcomed and the meeting was declared open at 7.00pm by Chairperson and President Kym Steer.

Members present – Shane Bewry, Gordon Brimble, Michael Buckler, Adam Cleary, Brayden Davidson, Phi Daws, Chris Dimitrak, Shane Grimwade, Brian Hart, Michael Hayes, Ross Hill Brown, Liberato Icolaro, Dennis Letton, Sarah Manning, Trish McHendrie, Frank Mchugh, Jordi McMillan, Trevor Mules, Scarlett Poole, Xavier Poole, Jenny Rofe, Hayden Rothe, Gianny Scoleri, Kym Steer, Jo Sutton, Michael Sutton, Brock Thompson, Anthony Tohl

In attendance – Brian Merrit, Simon Pols

Apologies – Brian Hart, Gary Thompson, Bernie Tippens, David Palmer

Kym Steer welcomed all

Receive and confirm the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 9th of June 2025.

- Moved Phil Daws
- Seconded Ross Hill Brown

  Carried

- The President's Report was presented and Kym summarised contents of the annual report.

Kyn advised it had been a privilege to be President for the last 4 years as we worked towards a common goal. We need to focus on building numbers, coach development and marketing as well as invest for the SAAL's future.

7.05pm Sarah Manning arrived

We have achieved so much with the improvement in the system with meet management and handicapping in particular.

We continue to encourage the education of coaches in the handicapping process and system We have had little engagement in the education that has been offered.

We have a great relationship with the Victorian Athletic League and continue to explore opportunities that will improve the sport of Pro Running across Australia.

Social Media coverage is great and will continue to be employed to motivate people to run with us.

Bay Sheffield was again a highlight and we saw further increases in interstate numbers. Post Bay Sheffield numbers continue to be a challenge with many athletes balancing SAAL with other commitments in Surf and Amateurs.

One of our greatest achievements is the improvement in culture.

Thanks was given to the athletes that make our sport.

7.13pm Hayden Rothe arrived. ‘

Thank you to our hard working officials.

It was noted that we need to work hard to get some new handicappers on board. Damian Tohl has done a great job and unfortunately will be stepping away this season.

Thanks to the Committee who provide essential oversight and work behind the scenes for the League.

Kym advised that this will be his final two years as president. We will work hard on a succession plan during this period. He also advised that the intention is that the Management Committee would appoint additional committee member ex officio at a coming meeting to help spread the load at the League.

Receive and accept the President’s report

- Moved Phil Daws
- Seconded Shane Bewry

  Carried

The floor was asked if there were any questions on the Annual Report. No questions were raised.

Receive and accept Executive Officer’s Report

- Moved Ross Hill Brown
- Seconded Jordi McMillan
- Carried

Financial Report

The floor was asked if there were any questions on the Financial Report. No questions were raised.

There was a brief discussion on the financial report. Gordon Brimble noted that is was a great result. Jenny detailed that funds from a grant were used for an $18k finishline camera and immediately capitalised. The expense will be recognised as depreciation over the coming years.

Kym acknowledged that we closely watch the finances and that our relationships with Government and Sponsors are very important.

Receive and accept Financial Report

- Moved Michael Buckler
- Seconded Gordon Brimble
- Carried

Receive and accept Audit

- Moved Gordon Brimble
- Seconded Phil Daws
- Carried

The Draft Program for the 2026/2027 season was displayed and early release was acknowledged to help athletes and coaches plan. It is a short season with Stawell starting on the 27th of March.

- Election of Office Bearers was conducted

  President (2 years) – Kym Steer was the only nomination for President and was elected.

  Thank you to Sarah Manning.

  Applicant's present spoke as to why they wished to go on the Committee.

  - Shane Bewry
  - Chris Dimitrak
  - Frank McHugh
  - Jordi McMillan
  - Tony Day – not present

  Members voted in 3 Committee Members for 2 years
  - Chris Dimitrak
  - Frank Mchugh
  - Jordi McMillan

- Appointment of Patrons and Vice-Patrons
  It was moved and accepted that Patron Bruce McAvaney remain in his position for the upcoming season.
  - Moved Dennis Letton
  - Seconded Trevor Mules
  - Carried

  It was moved and accepted that Vice Patron Peter Noblet AM remain in his position for the upcoming season.

  - Moved Phil Daws
  - Seconded Ross Hill Brown
  - Carried

- Appointment of the Auditor
  It was moved and accepted that Amin Chehade be appointed as Auditor for the 2026/27 season
  - Moved Dennis Letton
  - Seconded Gordon Brimble
  - Carried

- Fix the Annual Registration Fees

  Annual Registration fees were presented. There is no change to proposed fees from the previous season following feedback from members. A 4 meet pass will now be available.

  - Moved Frank Mchugh
  - Seconded Shane Bewry
  - Carried

- Proposed constitutional change

  A further copy of the proposed change was distributed to members.

  Phil questioned why we had not prescribed the number of females on the board. Kym advised we had actively pursued directly a number of females as well as advertising with females in mind. It was agreed that the Management Committee will further explore how we can attract females to the board to get a desired and important better gender balance and how this is best documented to ensure we may meet any government requirements.

  The change as proposed by Kym was separate to the gender issue. A vote was taken and more than two thirds agreed to the change being made.

  - Moved Kym Steer
  - Seconded Shane Bewry

  Carried

- Appointment of Life Memberships

  Dan Flesfader and Amin Chehade were proposed by the Management Committee for Life Membership. Jenny summarised the nominations and their notable contributions.

A vote was conducted and the nominations were carried. Presentation of the life memberships will be presented as part of the Bay Sheffield celebrations, most likely at the Bay Sheffield Breakfast.

- Other Business

  Mort Daly Running Foundation (MDRF)

  - Frank McHugh provided a summary of the Mort Daly Running Foundation actions and benefits to the League.
  - A huge amount of work has been undertaken to update the trustee document. Thanks to Chris Dimitrak and Gaetano Aiello for their assistance in the matter.
  - Chris has replaced Brian Hart on the Foundation.
  - $321,169 is the Foundation's current investment.
  - The Foundation's has committed $14,000 to SAAL for the 26/27 season
  - Gordon questioned whether the Future Fund that the SAAL is exploring could be placed with MDRF. Kym advised that SAAL is reviewing their options to ensure the be protection for the future of SAAL into the future. Frank and Shane Bewry have been meeting to look this.

- Bay Sheffield Hall of Fame (BSHOF)
  - Dennis Letton raised the Bay Sheffield Hall of Fame and preface his comments that there was no intention of causing offence to the current committee and was looking for accountability in the nominating process.
  - Proposed that the BSHOF be treated the same as Life Membership. Ie the nominations should be taken to the AGM for the membership to vote on.
  - Would also like to see the criteria for the BSHOF and Legend Status documented in the Constitution but is aware that this needs to be written up a proposed constitutional change.

- Questioned how members are supposed to know what the criteria is. Jenny advised it is on the website on the BSHOF page. It is also linked in social media posts requesting nominations. There is a sub committee that reviews nominations and proposes BSHOF nominees to the Management Committee.
- The Management Committee will review the Bay Sheffield Hall of Fame process at a coming meeting.
- Shane Bewry, Anthony Tohl and Michael Buckler both expressed concern at this being included in the constitution. Concerns included it being too prescriptive and the
- Anthony Tohl noted how much work had gone into the nomination process in his time on the sub committee. It is quite unlike Life Membership.
- Dennis confirmed that his proposal is that it is not just the committee that does the nominations, there should be input from all members.

- Kym thanked those that attended.
  - The Management Committee will meet in the near future. We look forward to Season 2026/27.

The meeting was closed at 8.40pm