



- Title:** Minutes of Northern Territory Cricket Limited's Annual General Meeting
- Meeting Location:** Novotel Airport Resort (2 Sir Norman Brearly Drive, Darwin Northern Territory - Bonaparte Room) and electronically via Microsoft Teams
- Meeting Date:** 10am ACST Saturday 18 November 2023.
- Present:** **Affiliated Clubs:** Nightcliff Cricket Club and Southern Districts Cricket Club
Affiliated Associations: Alice Springs Cricket Association
Life Members: Dr Bruce Walker AM, Mr Ralph Wiese
Directors: Dr Bruce Walker AM (Chair), Mr Lachlan Baird, Ms Ann Marie Andrews, Ms Jo Fitzpatrick & Mr Michael Trull, Mr Stuart Kenny, Mr Andrew Moo.
Individuals: Mr John Boxsell, Mr Tom Slattery, Mr Gavin Dovey, Mr Bevan Maher, Mr Jack Doyle, Mr Praveen Thalagampala, Mr Michael Martin, Ms Olivia Sherlock, Mr Darren Treumer, Mr Jordan Wright, Mr Stephen Ward, Ms Jessica Smith, Mr Murali Varatharajan, Mr Chris Pargeter.
- Proxies:** Mr Richard Bond, Mr Neville John Marshall & Mr Graham Tribe.
- Apologies:** Mr Rick Fletcher, Mr Dan Mckeown and Mr Chris Young.

1. Declaring the Annual General Meeting of NTC Ltd Open

- Dr Bruce Walker opened the AGM at 10:07am.
- Dr Walker welcomed everyone to the 45th general meeting of the organisation, which is the 2nd as Northern Territory Cricket Limited, and thanked everyone for coming and all that we have achieved together over the last year.
- Dr Walker acknowledged that we are meeting on Larrakia Land, and that we play cricket on land with first nations people all over the Northern Territory and that our relationship with Aboriginal people - past, present, and future – is very important.
- Dr Walker read out the apologies received from Rick Fletcher, Dan McKeown, President at Tracey Village Cricket Club, John Marshall (JM), and Chris Young, and confirmed we had Lachlan Baird, Jordan Wright, Andrew Moo and Tom Slattery joining us online, with four proxies received.

2. Confirmation of Minutes from NTC Limited AGM on 19 November 2022

- Dr Walker asked members if the minutes from the 2022 NTC Ltd Annual General Meeting are accepted.
- Dr Walker pointed out that last year's minutes stated that it was the second year as NT Cricket Limited, which was incorrect, as it was only the first. This will be amended.
- Mr Ralph Weise suggested that 'unconfirmed minutes' be sent out to members within four weeks of each AGM.

A motion was put forward to accept and receive the minutes (once amended).

Moved: Ms Annie Andrews. **Seconded:** Mr Stephen Ward. **Motion carried.**

3. 2023 President's Report

- Dr Walker read out his President's Report in full which is detailed in the 2022/23 NT Cricket Annual Report. Dr Walker stated he was pleased to report on the activities of the year – our second full year as a Company Limited by Guarantee and our 45th year of operation.
- Dr Walker noted in particular that the Board has been focussed on adopting and implementing the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan for NT Cricket Ltd, consolidating and growing Cricket 365, progressing the next 4-year funding agreement with Cricket Australia and succession planning.
- Dr Walker reiterated the core pillars of the Strategic Plan and was pleased to report that despite a disrupted year which we had to recruit a new CEO and a delay in CA's forward financing model, we have thriving cricket communities, with registrations increasing across a number of competitions including our key target markets.
- Dr Walker highlighted that in pathways it was pleasing to see the NT Strike take out the Top End Series against Pakistan Shaheens in a competition which included PNG, ACT and two BBL Franchise academies. Noting also that Tom Menzies selection in the Australian Under 19 side was also a highpoint and recognition of a lot of people who have invested time in junior cricket over the years.
- Dr Walker stated our sustainability is linked to our engagement with Australian Cricket and the contribution we can make to the game nationally. Cricket 365 is our chosen vehicle for this growth and this year we exceeded all expectations with the recognition and coverage of the events in only the third year.
- Dr Walker commented that NT Cricket were delighted that Gavin Dovey, Carly and their family chose Darwin as home when Gavin accepted to the role of CEO of NTC Ltd. Gavin has worked incredibly hard over the past 9 months to engage with local stakeholders and at the same time review our structure and deliver through his wide networks a very successful third year of Cricket 365.
- Dr Walker noted that Cricket Australia's decision to rollover State & Territory Funding Agreements for 1 year to allow Australian Cricket to review the efficiency and effectiveness of how the game is currently administered meant a delay in clarity on our financial position, and a delay in recruiting and appointing new roles. Dr Walker noted we should have clarity on our new funding agreement in early 2024.

- Dr Walker noted the meeting with the Board of Cricket Australia in Darwin in August 2023 where we were able to present the vision of NT Cricket and how it contributes to the national cricket business. CA have acknowledged that the Territories have been chronically underfunded over past years and in addition to confirming this year's budget provided a small uplift to ensure NTC could continue BAU.
- Dr Walker was pleased to highlight that NTC achieved the largest sponsorship it has ever had from a company who was not even based or operating in Australia. This is just one small illustration of the untapped potential of the cricket in north Australia. In response Cricket Australia have listed cricket in the north as one of their short listed strategic revenue and investment opportunities.
- Dr Walker reminded those in attendance that as he indicated last year, we have pursued these changes to align the NT with the Australian Cricket Network as it is clear to the Board that unless we are working towards the national interest, cricket investment in the north will struggle to grow and thrive over the long term.
- Dr Walker noted that the cricket landscape is changing rapidly as we move towards more individually contracted players linked to franchises globally rather than the old jurisdictional model of States and Territories. The Board is attempting to position opportunities for the NT within this changing environment. The Board's role is to find the balance between the external pressures on cricket and the local aspirations of our members in their clubs. It's been fantastic to see grass roots participation increase, and the standard of competition continues to rise.
- Dr Walker congratulated those clubs who achieved success in the Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition and the Alice Springs Cricket Association.
- Dr Walker thanked all Directors for their support in maintaining Cricket's leadership as a professional sporting business in the NT. Dr Walker praised Lachlan Baird who has continued an exceptional job leading the Darwin Cricket Management Committee this past season under challenging circumstances. We look forward to the appointment of the new Head of Clubs and Competitions role to drive forward the Darwin Districts Cricket Competition under a more modern delivery model. Dr Walker thanked Michael Trull who has led Alice Springs Cricket Association with distinction and kept a watchful eye on our financial position through his participation in the Australian Cricket Finance Working Group. Dr Walker acknowledged the contribution of Dr Richard Johnson, who is stepping down from the Board due to his professional commitments as Director of the Alice Springs Hospital. Since 2018, Richard's skills, experience and voice was invaluable to the Board and the evolution of our governance, and more broadly in the progress of growth within Women's cricket.
- Dr Walker commended Gavin Dovey as incoming CEO and all of our NT Cricket staff for their dedication to the game and thank them for their tireless, and often thankless work, that goes on behind the scenes. Particularly recognising their efforts over this dry season. In addition to their standard expected duties, they managed to facilitate and deliver an unprecedented level of winter cricket content, including a massive 287 fixtures over 183 days!
- Dr Walker commended this annual report to members, trusting they will be inspired by the direction and growth of NT Cricket.

A motion was put forward to accept and receive the Chairman's Report after some small typo errors are corrected.

Moved: Mr Stuart Kenny. **Seconded:** Ms Jo Fitzpatrick. **All were in favour, motion carried.**

4. 2023 CEO's Report

- Mr Dovey provided a summary of his CEO Report which is detailed in the 2022/23 NT Cricket Annual Report.
- Mr Dovey stated the Annual Report was a very comprehensive document and covers the extraordinary amount that we have achieved over the past 12 months, and everyone in our cricket community should be extremely proud of the collective efforts. Mr Dovey made a special mentioned of Olivia Sherlock's tremendous work in constructing this report.
- Mr Dovey said he would not go through his report in detail given it is all contained in the Annual Report which is available on our website. Mr Dovey invited those in attendance that he does not spend as much one-on-one time with as others (Ralph, Nick, Steve, Chris, John, Tom) that he would be happy to engage directly post the AGM as desired should they have any specific questions.
- Mr Dovey expressed enormous gratitude for the opportunity to be standing here in this role, thanking the Board, and stating that cricket has been exceptionally good to he and his family for a long period of time and he is grateful to be able to continue to give back in this latest capacity. Mr Dovey noted his family and he are committed to investing in progressing the game in the Territory. Mr Dovey said he felt incredibly welcomed in the community, and he hoped people see us building bridges and achieving things collectively.
- Mr Dovey called out to the extraordinary efforts of his predecessor Joel Morrison, noting Joel is a fantastic person and who did an incredible job in his 5 years here. Mr Dovey drew everyone's attention to the fact a lot of the exciting things we're currently trying to progress are things that Joel skilfully laid the foundations for.
- Mr Dovey highlighted the two key things he has been focused on since arriving – building and deepening relationships, and elevating Territory's role in Australian cricket. Mr Dovey said alongside that he has been focused on securing an increased and sustainable funding base, as well as making organisation and structural changes to align better with successful executing our strategic plan.
- Mr Dovey presented a slide to members in attendance, summarising the sobering starting point for a lot of aspects of the fight to elevate the role the NT plays in Australian Cricket, as well as attempting to give context to lots of aspects of how we're currently positioned organisationally to administer and grow the game.
- Mr Dovey noted a clear success story from this year was Cricket 365, with some strong measures of success in the form of broadcast numbers, returning Big Bash Franchises and the Pakistan Cricket Board electing to send a team to Darwin to participate. Mr Dovey stating these gives further evidence that this asset is growing and promoting the game, and the Territory, as well as providing our best young talent an opportunity to play the highest level of cricket available. Our small staff, volunteers and community have done incredible things and delivered winter cricket.
- Mr Dovey also highlighted the unique opportunity to see International cricket return to the NT over on a more consistent basis over the next 7 years, linking the importance of putting the drop-in wicket back into TIO Stadium for Cricket 365 this year in order to begin demonstrating our capability. Mr Dovey said an extraordinary amount of work had gone into making this happen and we have received good Government support to attempt to achieve this significant milestone.
- Mr Dovey concluded by stating there are so many things we can be proud of. Even with limited resources we're seeing fantastic growth across participation in cricket in the Top End.

- Mr Dovey acknowledged the incredible staff at NT Cricket. A small team who work so hard for the betterment of the game. Working in community sport comes with huge sacrifices, and he thanked the staff for their incredible efforts this year. The community should be extremely grateful that we have very talented people, who are choosing to work in sport purely to make a contribution.
- Dr Walker noted it had been an amazing year where what we achieved should have been done with double the resources. Dr Walker made a special thank you for Carly Dovey for building the new website, which looks amazing, and he thanked Gavin for what he's achieved in a small space of time. Very impressive.

A motion was put forward to accept and receive the report.

Moved: Mr Murali Varatharajan. **Seconded:** Mr Stephen Ward. **All were in favour, motion carried.**

5. 2023 Audit Report

- Mr Trull presented the Financial Report which is detailed in the 2022/23 NT Cricket Annual Report.
- Mr Trull noted that on paper we made a loss \$12,634 after factoring in depreciation \$250K, stating it was a fairly positive result considering uncertainty around the Cricket Australia funding, and the money we invested into broadcasting for Cricket 365. Mr Trull noted current assets of around \$1M which is generally where we've been standing the last 3 years. On paper, the total value of the organisation including land, assets etc is around the \$7M mark.
- Mr Wiese congratulated us on the report but then referred to Page 18; detailed income and expenditure statement, which Mr Weise noted wasn't clear. Mr Trull explained that we discussed this query in the 2021 AGM, the outcome of which was creating a visual pie chart showing different department or functional spend. Mr Trull explained we are in the process of changing bookkeeper and will endeavour to offer clearer reporting next year.
- Mr Trull confirmed that we are including documentation for what is required as per the Accounting Standard. We don't want to confuse members with a detailed Profit and Loss Statement, but they can request a copy, which we will happily provide upon request.
- Mr Kenny suggested that in future NTC would be open to holding a small forum prior to the AGM, in order to discuss the financials in greater detail for those members who are interested in that.

A motion was put forward to accept and receive the financial report.

Moved: Mr Stuart Kenny. **Seconded:** Ms Annie Andrews. **All were in favour, motion carried.**

6. Declaration – Elections for the Management Board

Two Member Elected Directors

- Dr Walker summarised that there were two (2) member elected Directors retiring with their Board terms having finished, Mr Andrew Moo and Mr Richard Johnson, with the latter electing not to stand. Dr Walker thanked Mr Johnson for his contribution.
- Dr Walker noted that at the call of nominations, we had 3 people nominate (Mr Moo, Mr Slattery and Mr McNally), 67 members entitled to vote and 48 members cast their vote.
- Dr Walker stated that Andrew Moo received 41 votes, Tom Slattery received 33 votes, and Cameron McNally received 20 votes. Therefore, declaring that Andrew Moo and Tom Slattery are elected for the Board as elected Directors, by the members, for the next 3 years.
- Dr Walker thanked everyone for taking the time to vote and thanked Michael Martin and the Nominations Committee.

Confirmation of Board Appointed Directors

- Dr Walker stated the Board have elected Jo Fitzpatrick for a further 3 years, and Rick Fletcher for a further 1 year.

7. Appointment of Auditor

- Mr Trull confirmed we went to market three years ago and noted that Perks were the preferred choice again at a reasonable price.
- Mr Trull noted Perks only do an annual audit for NT Cricket, they are not doing regular consultancy work.

A motion was put forward that Perks be re-appointed as NT Cricket's auditor.

Moved: Mr Stuart Kenny. **Seconded:** Mr Stephen Ward. **All in favour, motion carried.**

8. Appointment of Life Member - Mr Stephen Ward

- Dr Walker announced that the Board has recommended that Stephen Ward be appointed a Life Member of NT Cricket in recognition of his sustained contribution over 35 years of dedicated service to cricket in the Northern Territory.
- Dr Walker read the official citation nomination for Mr Ward before asking the room to support the Board's recommendation and appoint Mr Ward as a Life Member.
- The hands of all those present were raised and applause followed. Mr Ward graciously accepted and thanked all those in attendance.

A motion was put forward that Mr Stephen Ward be appointed as a Life Member.

Moved: Mr Ralph Wiese. **Seconded:** Ms Jo Fitzpatrick. **All in favour, motion carried.**

9. Transacting such other business as may be brought before the meeting in conformity with the constitution of NTC Ltd

- Dr Walker invited questions, issues or comments before we close.
- **Q:** Mr Varatharajan asked for an update on filling the Head of Clubs and Competitions position.
- **A:** Mr Dovey advised that he provided an update during the two recent meetings with the Clubs Presidents but reiterated that the first round of recruitment efforts was unfortunately unsuccessful, however he was well progressed in the second effort with a recruiter engaged to assist in expediting the process.
- While discussing club competition matters, Dr Walker advised that Mick Trull has worked an arrangement with Alice Springs Town Council, who used to prepare turf wickets for years, and this year ASTC will now contract and pay us to contract a curator.
- **Q:** Mr Wiese expressed his disappointment that NTC only has 67 members and he asked the Board whether they were doing anything to increase the numbers of members.
- **A:** Dr Walker explained that Clubs and Associations are followed up on renewals, but beyond that, there have been no discussions to increase the numbers in the context of the Company.
- **Q:** Mr Wiese's second query was in relation to poor player behaviour. Mr Wiese expressed that as an ex-cricketer, he's been watching and becoming concerned over behaviours and what he's seeing in the media/press. Mr Wiese asked what the DCMC and NTC, as the overriding body, are doing to rectify poor player behaviour. Mr Wiese further asking that if the Captain is responsible for their team, then if a player is charged, the Captain from that team should also be charged with same offence.
- **A:** Mr Baird thanked Mr Wiese for the question and advised that he's correct in the fact the DDCC fixed penalties conditions require that when any player is reported that the reporting match official elects, or does not elect, to indicate to the competition whether or not the Captain had any ability to control the situation. As it stands, if they do, the Captain is automatically sanctioned under the fixed penalty provisions. Mr Baird went on to state the players who have been reported in our competition over the last couple of years and the most high profile ones have been in A Grade on each occasion, the options ticked on the forms, have been that the Captain has not had the ability to control or change it. We are very happy to have this reviewed and strengthened again, but we appreciate the frustration and query. Mr Baird said player behaviour remains a focus, and thanked Mr Wiese for the suggestion, noting we are seeing improvement albeit incremental.

10. Meeting Close

- Dr Walker thanked everyone for their attendance, patience, and questions, and noted that both he and Mr Dovey are approachable and always available for questions and/or comments.
- Dr Walker declared the AGM closed at 11:23am.

This is a true and correct record of proceedings.

DR BRUCE WALKER AM
PRESIDENT & CHAIR
NORTHERN TERRITORY CRICKET LIMITED

DATE