



**Title:** Minutes of Northern Territory Cricket Limited's Annual General Meeting

**Meeting Location:** DXC Arena (155 Abala Road, Marrara, NT) and electronically via Microsoft Teams

**Meeting Date:** 10am ACST Saturday 19 November 2022.

**Present:** **Affiliated Clubs:** Nightcliff CC, Federal CC, Tracy Village CC, & Darwin CC.  
**Affiliated Associations:** Alice Springs Cricket Association.  
**Cricket Committees:** Darwin Cricket Management Committee & Women's Cricket Committee.  
**Life Members:** Mr John Marshall, Dr Bruce Walker AM, Mr Ian Butterworth.  
**Directors:** Dr Bruce Walker AM (**Chair**), Mr Rick Fletcher, Mr Lachlan Baird, Mr Richard Johnson, Ms Ann Marie Andrews, Ms Jo Fitzpatrick & Mr Michael Trull (in Alice Springs)  
**Individuals:** Mr Andrew Christianson, Ms Jo Fitzpatrick, Mr Michael Martin, Mr Joel Morrison, Ms Olivia Sherlock, Mr Darren Treumer, Mr Stephen Ward, Mr Udara Weerasinghe, Ms Megan White, Ms Julie Page, Mr Shannon Ryan, Mr Dylan Slater, Mr Kris Denby, Mr Himanshu Bhatia, Mr David King, Mr Andrew Richards, Mr Matthew Sandery, Ms Jessica Smith, Mr John Tate, Mr Murali Varatharajan, Mr Chris Pargeter.

**Proxies:** Mr Richard Bond & Mr Graham Tribe.

**Apologies:** Mr Andrew Moo, Mr Anthony Dent, Mr Simon Mattias & Mr Ralph Wiese.

### 1. Declaring the Annual General Meeting of NTC Ltd Open

- Dr Walker declared a quorum was present and opened the meeting at 10:06am. He welcomed everyone to the 44<sup>th</sup> general meeting of the organisation, which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> as Northern Territory Cricket Limited.
- Acknowledges that we are on Larrakia land. He welcomed Joel Morrison back to Darwin to present the CEO report.
- Dr Walker acknowledged that we play cricket on the land of many aboriginal peoples across the Northern Territory and the important relationship between indigenous peoples and NT Cricket.

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes from NTC Ltd's AGM on 27 November 2021

A motion was put forward to accept and receive the minutes from 27 November 2021.

**Moved: Mr Richard Johnson. Seconded: Mr Rick Fletcher. All in favour, carried.**

### 3. 2021/22 President's Report

Dr Walker provided his President's report which is detailed in the 2021/22 NT Cricket Annual Report.

In summary the report indicated that our approach is working and we will see results.

Dr Walker acknowledged all NT players, and clubs and their contributions to our story. Thanked and acknowledged the Directors for their leadership, and their contribution to the Cricket. He commended Lachlan Baird in particular for his leadership of Darwin Cricket and his focus on discipline. Michael Trull doing a similar job for the Alice Springs Cricket. Special mention to Clare Martin, who was on the Board for 15 years, who acted as CEO for 3 months 5 years ago, but who stood down in February. She significantly contributed to getting major fixtures and finding additional funding for TIO Stadium. Also acknowledging Rick Fletcher for his contribution of 3 years to date as a Board Appointed Director, servicing Katherine and assisting Indigenous Cricket.

Dr Walker offered a special commendation to Joel Morrison and the NTC staff. A very professional team with great staff, who have carried the organisation while it was without a CEO.

During Joel's term here, the changes have been significant. Governance reform, growth of C365, upgrading of the lights at DXC and Cazaly's, finding required additional funding, tripled the value of sponsorships, increased physical infrastructure. We are not surprised that Cricket Australia have poached Joel. Reassuring that he's in the network, and Cricket nationally will be better off because of his involvement.

Dr Walker announced that Megan White is unfortunately leaving NT Cricket to go back to working in the Crocodile Industry. Her contribution to pathways development at NTC was acknowledged.

Dr Walker encouraged members to be conscious of the messages conveyed in social media and to be aware of how positive messages assists with funding and relationships with commercial sponsors, and how it can affect Cricket receiving benefits.

Dr Walker announced the very exciting appointment of NT Cricket's new CEO, Mr Gavin Dovey, who will be starting in January 2023. Gavin will have a fresh outlook and will be a fantastic asset for Cricket in the Top End. Also wished everyone well for the coming Season and thanked everyone for their continuous support.

**A motion to receive and adopt the President's report was presented.**

**Moved: Mr Ian Butterworth. Seconded: Mr Steve Ward. All in favour, carried.**

#### **4. 2021/22 CEO's Report**

Mr Morrison provided his final CEO report which is detailed in the 2021/22 NT Cricket Annual Report.

He apologised for the length of his very detailed report but explained he will just summarise the highlights today and take any questions.

It has been another huge year for Cricket in the NT. We began the year with another wave of COVID which had impacts of lockdowns and being able to attend National Championships. We had plans to tour 17's in WA, which was unfortunately cancelled due to another WA lockdown.

But the 19's Championships were able to go ahead, which was a great test for us. We invested heavily in our Pathways and rebuilt Academies about 4 years ago. We had a really strong performance, and the team had a couple of wins. A credit to everyone involved in development, in particular Darren and Megan.

There was opportunity for Darwin to host a series of matches against Zimbabwe, which unfortunately didn't proceed. The financial challenges were a large component for Cricket Australia. Off the back of not staging international Cricket this year, we received a public commitment from Cricket Australia to bring international Cricket in the coming years. We are firmly in the running to host South Africa in 2025, then Afghanistan the following year. These opportunities have enabled us to secure a quarter of million-dollar investment from NT Government to build two drop in wickets for TIO Stadium plus two grass trays. It will be cost effective to put cricket wickets into TIO Stadium and use them for C365 or maybe Darwin Finals, as well as the possible international matches.

We saw some positive progress made within the Female Pathways through the emerging relationship with Cricket ACT and Papua New Guinea. We saw some U19 representative games being played with Papua New Guinea team. Megan White really built that relationship and built momentum within the Pathways space. We have seen growth in Womens numbers, and growth in participation.

When we invest in a program our intent is to bring in new kids to cricket for the first time. When trying to build an attendance culture, we are trialling new marketing tools such as fireworks at C365 events. The Top End T20 average attendance grew from 62 to 174 per match. We are not seeing regular cricket players in the NT come along to watch as they get their regular cricket fix from Club cricket, but seeing new people come to watch is a positive trend. We also saw the viewership grow through the TV coverage from 1.03 million viewers last year to 4.01 million viewers this year. The point of difference in the marketplace is that we can use cricket as a vehicle to promote the Territory into South Asia.

Really proud of delivering our strategic plan which is gaining national interest. Three pillars of Thriving Cricket Communities, Strong Cricket Pathways and Teams, Growing Investment in Cricket. While the pitch is national, it's all about getting revenue to reinvest into the growth of local Cricket.

A very big thank you to everyone in this year for the support over the last 4.5-5 years. Commend the passion and commitment from everyone. The NTC team are very passionate and do it all for the right reasons. Are open and adaptable.

Big thank you to the Board for taking the opportunity to give him a go. And thanked Dr Walker for his mentorship and friendship. Is very happy to be staying within the Cricket family and stay connected with us all.

**A motion was put forward to receive and adopt the report.**

**Moved: Ms Julie Page. Seconded: Mr Steve Ward. All in favour, carried.**

## **5. 2021/22 Audit Report**

Mr Trull spoke to the financial report which is detailed in the 2021/22 NT Cricket Annual Report.

- Net surplus prior to depreciation of \$45,522. When we received the grant money for the light towers, we factored the whole grant as income received, then we spent it on assets, which then depreciated over a period of years. This will sit on our Profit and Loss over the next 20-30 years. We have depreciation of \$237,000 this year, which brings our net deficit after depreciation of \$192,000.

- As of 30 June 2022, we had net current assets of \$765,000 after factoring in \$366,000 in unexpected grant funds, some is leftover light project funds which NTG have given us permission to refurb a few things. We had a decrease of cash on hand of \$246,000 which was money we received in prior years.
- Slightly changed format was because the detailed P&L didn't give the best reflection of where funds were being spent and received. It wasn't showing the actual projects or business groups where the funds were going. We thought a better way to present it, was the pie chart breakdown. The other way is available upon request.
- Mr Morrison explained that last year it was discussed to provide a summary pie chart on where the money is going, rather than providing the detailed P&L with itemised lists such as sunscreen and stationery. Using a clearer pie chart showing expenditure in areas such as Pathways programs, Community Cricket, C365, infrastructure etc.
- Mr Butterworth asked about Department breakdowns. Asked if the 5 Core Business areas listed are universal or NT created. Mr Morrison explained that they are pretty well aligned throughout Australian Cricket. They generally have Business Operations, Community Cricket, High Performance, and then Other. Now that we have been doing it this way for years, we now have historical data on our breakdowns however we can split up the departments however necessary.
- David King asked about receiving copies of spreadsheets and receiving access to all information that makes up pieces of that pie.
- Mr Morrison explained that Business Services component effectively includes employment expenses, engagement of contractors, work vehicles, marketing, travel expenses, general stationary etc. C365 is segmented into the delivery of Strike League and Top End Services. Community Cricket covers general administration, Alice Springs office, remote community carnivals, NICC and Imparja Cup, Remote Sports Voucher programs, Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund, etc. Within Facilities it's primarily Marrara and Cazalys Arena, with a small amount being on Gardens Oval (as we lease the Clubhouse). And Pathways is Coach and Umpire education, Academies, Junior Strike League, Womens Strike League, National Championships for U17's and U19's, Senior opportunities that may live outside of C365.
- John Tate asked if there's a way to find out what proportions of the \$530,000 wages have been spent on each department? Mr Morrison explained that all staff members wages go into Business Services, as being a small business, if we designate wages to different departments, it will be noticeable what staff members receive what. For staff privacy reasons, this is the way we do it. However on the pie chart, we have split up the wages and put them into the relevant departments.
- Murali Varatharajan asked us to summarise the tangible benefits. Dr Walker explained that we will be meeting with Cricket Australia on 5 December in Adelaide, starting to look into the next 4 year funding cycle. We are mounting the national interest case on C365, which is what they're very interested in. This is a long-term strategy and project. But we believe almost 100% support of the Board from Cricket Australia. We will be locking in the next 4 years of funding very soon.
- It was then asked if the \$850,000 that has been allocated to C365 was funded from CA for this program, or was it NTC's Board's direction to allocated these funds to C365?

Mr Morrison advised that C365 costs about \$550K and we received \$250K worth of cash, plus other partnerships with contra deals, net impact, investment of \$300K to allocate wherever we want to. And most of these funds wouldn't have come in without C365.

\$250K is new money that we received due to selling rights for C365 and \$300K is reallocation funds to support C365.

- John Marshall asked about the future of Marrara 1 and stated that it's missing a grandstand. Why TIO is receiving upgrades but here isn't. Dr Walker explained that development and capital works plan is already on NT Government's agenda.

Mr Morrison explained that Marrara doesn't have the broadcast and medical infrastructures in place that is required to stage an international accredited match here, but TIO Stadium does.

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

**Moved: Mr Michael Trull. Seconded: Mr Richard Johnston. All in favour, carried.**

## **6. Outcome of Elections for the Management Board**

### **A) Two Member Elected Directors**

Dr Walker thanked the Nominations Committee for being very active this year, and Jess for being the Returning Officer. He read out results from the online Election, showing that there were 80 voting members, 58 of which, voted. There were 4 people vying for 2 available positions. Mr Simon Mattias 16 votes, Mr Anthony Dent 22 votes, Mr Michael Trull and Ms Ann-Marie Andrews both received 39 votes each, and therefore Mr Trull and Ms Andrews are elected as Directors for the next 3 years.

Thank you to everyone for taking the time to vote.

### **B) Confirmation of One Board Appointed Director**

- The Board announced their intention to appoint Mr Stuart Kenny for a fixed term of 3 years.
- The Board has since received a resignation from Mr Ken Vowles, which left us with another Board appointed Director position. The Board's intention is to reappoint Mr Rick Fletcher.

**A motion was put forward to accept the Board appointments.**

**Moved: Mr Ian Butterworth. Seconded: Mr Murali Varatharajan. All in favour, carried.**

## **7. Appointment of Auditor**

Mr Trull's recommendation is to reappoint Perks Accountants. Last year we went through a tender process and Perks had very reasonable rates.

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

**Moved: Mr Michael Trull. Seconded: Mr Steve Ward. All in favour, carried.**

#### **8. Appointment of Life Membership for Mr Christopher Young**

Dr Walker announced that the Board has recommended that Christopher Young be appointed a Life Member of NT Cricket in recognition of his sustained contribution over 25 years of dedicated service to cricket in the Northern Territory.

Chris has served the sport of cricket in the NT as a club President, administrator, volunteer, Board Director and as NT Cricket's representative on the Casuarina All Sports Club.

Following a cricket career in Sydney at St Ives, Bathurst and Berowra, Mr Young moved to Darwin in April 1996. He was appointed to the PINT Cricket Club committee in November 1996 and volunteered for their 'Have A Go' program and coached the PINT under 17 side.

In November 1998-2000 he was President of the PINT Cricket Club. From 1998 onwards Chris also served on the Darwin and District Cricket Competition Disciplinary Panel.

In 2001 Chris became a member of a NTCA committee established to review the NTCA Constitution which was adopted at the 2002 AGM.

Chris joined the NT Cricket Board in November 2003 and served as a Director of NTCA for 14 years until November 2017. He chaired the finance committee of the Board for the time he was a Director.

During his time as a Director, he regularly took leave each year to attend the Imparja Cup and the National Indigenous Cricket Championships in Alice Springs as a volunteer where he acted as the Traeger Park ground manager.

After his term on the Board completed in 2017 Chris accepted the position as the NT Cricket representative on the executive of the Casuarina All Sports Club and he remains in that role today.

We believe he is a most worthy candidate for life membership of Northern Territory Cricket.

**A motion was put forward to accept the Board's recommendation and appoint Mr Young as a Life Member.**

**Moved: Mr Steve Ward. Seconded: Ms Julie page. All in favour, carried.**

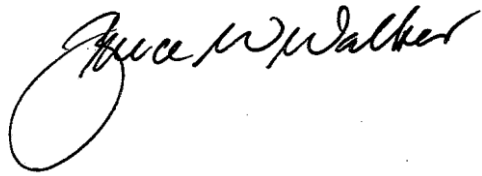
## 9. Transacting such other business as may be brought before the meeting in conformity with the constitution of NTC Ltd

- There being no notified business for the meeting the Chair opened the meeting for questions from members.
- John Marshall asked if the Cas Club's sale of the land would affect us. It was discussed that the lease is currently in place until 2030 so notionally there shouldn't be any concerns, but we will check in with Chris Young.
- It was asked about available funding for the local clubs. Dr Walker explained that in Joel's time, we have tripled the amount of funding received. We are not Pty Ltd, we are Ltd and are not for profit and are not tax deductible.  
Beyond this, we encourage Darwin Clubs to chase their own sponsorships.
- Michael mentioned that Taverners is the major charity of Cricket Australia, and people do give money when there's a tax advantage.
- You can put a project up and request sponsorships. Nominate through the Australian Sports Foundation.
- It was suggested that the players used to playing on turf – need to keep playing on turf.  
With more C365 imports coming here and needing to play on turf, it pushes locals off turf.  
If we want players and clubs to get onboard, we need to change the narrative.  
Maybe if troubleshooting options, maybe make turf hire more expensive, and have synthetic become more affordable for junior participation?
- John Tate acknowledged the lights and benefits they bring, particularly within the Women's space. It's 1200 lux here, what is TIO? Mr Morrison said 2500 lux.
- Udara Weerasinghe asked Rick Fletcher to explain how this Indigenous specific funding programs request will work.  
Rick explained that through the Indigenous Cricket Committee, the Board asked him to look into views of people from remote and regional areas to see if we can grow the game within these areas through specific funding programs. To do this we would need a separate entity that meets the eligibility criteria for specific Indigenous funding programs. We are putting interest out in those areas to see how we can support families and interest in growing the game. It's hard competing with Aussie Rules, especially in remote and regional areas.
- Udara Weerasinghe advised that he's been heavily involved within cricket since 2009 and in his time, he hasn't seen many kids progress over the last 3-4 years. He's asked if we have noticed this. Have we done what we can do to help kids progress more?  
Dr Walker shared that there are always cycles of players that have gone through. We had a 2-year gap for U17's National Champs, where we couldn't compete due to COVID. Cycles and COVID have impacted on us the last few years but that's out of our control.  
Lachlan Baird mentioned that there is a structure in place now, that wasn't available 5 years ago, that allows Territory kids to be challenged at every level. Participation level at Clubs, Junior Strike League, then National Championships.
- Dr Walker reiterated he is available to everyone, always. If there are any issues or comments to raise, please touch base.

**10. Meeting Close**

Dr Walker thanked everyone for their attendance, patience, and questions. We are confident that we are on the right track.  
We are all very excited for Gavin to start in January.  
Declared the meeting closed at 11:57am, and wished everyone well for Christmas.

This is a true and correct record of proceedings.



\_\_\_\_\_  
**DR BRUCE WALKER AM**  
PRESIDENT & CHAIR  
NORTHERN TERRITORY CRICKET LIMITED

\_\_\_\_\_  
19 November 2022

**DATE**