

Minutes of the SAPL Committee Meeting held in Adelaide Clubrooms  
Thursday 29 July 2010 Starting at 7:00 pm

<b>Present:</b>	Graham Clark	President
	Adrian Clements	Vice Chairman
	Stan Wilson	Secretary
	Maitie Beaumont	Treasurer
	Marcus Marende	Committee (Eastern Suburbs)
	Deb Rodda	Eastern Suburbs
	Ray Beaumont	Committee (Port Noarlunga)
	Glenis Head	Committee (Gawler)
	Anthony Pietsch	Committee (AHPC)
	Anders Holmdahl	Committee (FAB)
	John Wilson-Smith	FAB
	Brett Williams	Committee (Prospect)
	Dave Ward	Prospect
	A Mathews	Prospect
	Tina Stockley	Committee (Adelaide)
	Alba Moya	Adelaide

**1. Apologies:** Apologies were received from; Coonawara Petanque Club

The League President opened the meeting and thanked the committee members for attending.

**2. Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8 July 2010 had previously been circulated to all members. The Secretary reported that in response to a correction received from Ray Beaumont the number of attendees at the recent Bastille Day celebrations have been modified to "more than 32 teams". Ray Beaumont proposed and Marcos Marende seconded that with that correction they be accepted as a true record of that meeting. The vote accepting them was unanimous. The President and Secretary then signed a copy of the minutes.

**3. Actions Arising:**

- a. Prepare State doubles entry form **Action Closed**
- b. Inform PFA of alternative arrangements for licence distribution due to the secretary's holiday. **Action Closed**
- c. Write to FAB regarding position on committee. **Action Closed**
- d. Send Calendar Dates to Adrian. **Action Closed**
- e. Incorporate comments into Draft Rules of Association **Action Ongoing**

f. Adelaide Club has not sent a letter to PFA requesting them to clarify the PFA financial situation and provide a financial statement.

**Action Superseded**

g. Write to Clubs asking for interest in an end of year dinner.

**Action Closed**

h. Contact Sports SA for advice on Insurance policies.

**Action Open**

i. Write to Clubs with a proposition to be voted upon at the next meeting

**Action Closed**

j. Review and comment on the JP Guiglielmi proposal. All clubs were asked to make an effort and provide reasoned comments on the proposal.

**Action Open**

k. Everyone who had donated to the “Squares” collection has been reimbursed

**Action Closed**

#### **4. Vote on proposal**

**As agreed at the last meeting the clubs were asked to vote on the following proposal:**

**“All members of SA Clubs affiliated to the South Australian Pétanque League should be invited to participate in Interclub League events organized by the State’s governing body.”**

Voting recorded on this proposal was:

<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
FAB	GAWLER
ADELAIDE HILLS	PORT NOARLUNGA
PROSPECT	ADELAIDE
EASTERN SUBURBS	

The vote was declared in favour of the proposition.

The main proposal was accompanied by proposals from The Gawler Pétanque Club and the Adelaide Hills Club both of which are attached to these minutes.

The first proposal addressed was the one from the Gawler Club. After discussion the President asked for a Club to propose and second the proposal. No club was prepared to second and the proposal was not put to the vote.

The Adelaide Hills proposal was proposed by Anthony Piestch and Seconded by Anders Holmdahl. Due to the number of different sub proposals within the document it was decided to vote on each subsection separately.

The votes as recorded were as follows:

Proposal (1-A). The South Australian inter-club competition (state league) will be open to all members of any club affiliated to the SA Petanque League.

Already agreed by the previous vote

Proposal (1-B). *SA State Championships* will be open to all members of any club affiliated to the South Australian Petanque League.

Proposal rejected, it was considered by that participation in State Championships should be restricted to PFA Licence holders.

Proposal 2

**PFA umpires will be replaced by referees, who...**

- are nominated by the clubs.
- intervene only when asked, for measuring and resolving disputes.
- may form a panel to deal with serious disputes.

Following discussion during which the dangers of playing without umpires were pointed out by Port Noarlunga a vote was taken with the following result:

YES	NO
FAB	GAWLER
ADELAIDE HILLS	PORT NOARLUNGA
PROSPECT	ADELAIDE
EASTERN SUBURBS	

The proposal was carried, league round host clubs will be asked to nominate referees for the day.

**Proposal (3):**

**SAPL will work towards arranging a state-wide insurance package, to replace the current *ad hoc* approach. All members of participating clubs would be covered, whether playing at home or at any of the other clubs, along with guests at club competitions.**

Seconded by Prospect and carried.

The Secretary was asked to investigate the possibilities.

**Action Stan Wilson**

**5. Treasurers Report:**

Nothing to report since the AGM

**6. Umpires Report:**

Nothing to report

signed Min 10- 29-7-10

## 7. Coaches Report:

No coaching activities have occurred since the last meeting. Training for the upcoming Interstate Challenge is yet to be organised.

## 8. Tournament Director.

Nothing to report.

## 9. PFA Correspondence

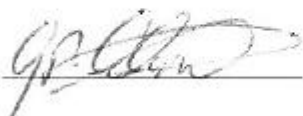
Marcel Philogen and Grant Threadgate representing the PFA board had held a meeting in Adelaide in order to clarify the PFA position with regards to membership and to listen to comments and gather feedback from SA Clubs. The meeting was well attended by both affiliated and non affiliated clubs and players. The message was that we should abide by the present PFA bylaws but the Board intends to improve them as soon as practicable. In response to a request Sasha Heredia, and Stan Wilson agreed to participate in the proposed review. Anthony Piestch agreed to consider participating in the review. Copies of the written questions and responses are available from the Secretary. We are still awaiting minutes of the meeting from PFA.

## 10. AOB

- a. The Treasurer reminded everybody that the SAPL Affiliation Fee of \$25.00 is due. **Action All**
  
- b. The subject of an end of season dinner was raised. Deb Rodda had contacted several possible venues and had information on prices available. Support from the Clubs has been lukewarm, and it was decided not to hold the event. Trophies and Medals would be presented at the next league round.

Signed

President



Secretary



Date:

9-9-2010

**Next meeting 7.00pm 9 September 2010 at Adelaide Club**

Minutes of the SAPL Committee Meeting held in Adelaide Clubrooms  
Thursday 29 July 2010 Action Tracking Sheet

As we have a number of agreed actions which are still ongoing I thought that perhaps the committee members would find this sheet a useful addition to our minutes as an Aide memoire of those things we committed to do but have yet to action.

Ref	Date	Actionee	Description	Status
15	25 February	G Clark	Contact Coonawara reference wine purchase	Closed
16	25 February	S Wilson	Contact I Parmenter to see if SAPL can have an input into temporary piste design	Closed
17	25 February	S Wilson	Write to FAB	Closed
18	25 February	All Delegates	Inform Ray of shooting entrants	Closed
19	8 April	S Wilson	Prepare State Doubles entry sheet	Closed
20	8 April	S Wilson	Inform PFA of alternate arrangements	Closed
21	8 April	S Wilson	Write to FAB	Closed
22	8 April	All	Send calendar dates to Adrian	Closed
23	8 April	S Wilson	Incorporate comments into draft wherever possible	Ongoing
24	20 May	A Clements	Adelaide Club to write to PFA asking for a financial statement for 2009	Superseded
25	8 July	S Wilson	Write to clubs asking for an indication of interest in a year end dinner	Closed
26	8 July	S Wilson	Contact Sport SA for advice on Insurance policies	Open
27	8 July	S Wilson	Write to clubs with a proposition to be voted on at the next meeting	Closed
28	8 July	All	Review and comment on the Jean Phillippe Guiglielmi proposal	Open
29	29 July	Stan Wilson	Investigate a Stat wide Insurance Policy	Open
30	29 July	All	Pay SAPL affiliation fee	Open
31				
32				

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **GAWLER PROPOSAL**

#### **PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION**

At the last SAPL committee meeting we discussed allowing non-PFA licenced players to participate in SAPL competitions, in particular the League rounds.

I would like to propose that this could be achieved by having two separate competitions at the same time – one for licenced and one for non- licenced players.

At the moment, after the first round the licenced players are ranked into two Divisions. My proposal would be to retain the Divisions as they are and make two Divisions for the nonlicenced players.

The non-licenced players would only play against non-licenced players, they would not be covered by PFA insurance, would not have umpires and would not be bound by SAPL/PFA/FIPJP rules.

The playing format would be the same for both competitions, and club and individual points awarded as they have been for previous League rounds.

I would suggest that this proposal would need a Tournament Director to manage the licenced competition and an “Assistant Tournament Director” who would manage the non-licenced competition.

If a non- licenced player decides he/she would like to become licenced, that would allow them to take part in the ‘formal’ SAPL rounds and be available for selection for State teams once having received their licence.

Glenis Head

Gawler Pétanque Club Inc

APPENDIX 2  
ADELAIDE HILLS PETANQUE CLUB PROPOSAL

26 July 2010

### The Main Proposal ...

... is that, for **season 2010/11** and subsequent seasons, ...

**(1-A). The South Australian inter-club competition (state league) will be open to all members of any club affiliated to the SA Petanque League.**

**(1-B). SA State Championships will be open to all members of any club affiliated to the South Australian Petanque League.**

#### *Reasons*

A healthy and vigorous inter-club competition is essential to the promotion of petanque in this state. However, our state petanque competitions have seen a steady decline in the number of players over recent years. In the interest of reversing this trend, we need to remove impediments to participation wherever possible.

One major impediment is the requirement for a PFA licence. There are numerous players about the place who would like to compete but are unable to because they don't hold a licence. In some cases, the player concerned has objections to supporting PFA (as a matter of principle, for whatever reason) and thus refuses to get a licence. In other cases, people (not interested in competing at nationals or other interstate events) think that the financial impost is too much just to play in a handful of tournaments, given that there are no other apparent benefits to being licenced.

By removing licence requirements, we are likely to entice a significant number of these people back into the competition. Secondly, we'll make it easier for new players. as they can come along and try it without having to make a considerable commitment in advance (i.e., getting a licence). Thirdly, we'll make it easier for clubs to fill as many teams as possible by enabling them to replace regular players (who are ill or temporarily absent) with others that may only wish to play occasionally, or that may want to try it for the first time.

As well as increasing participation, the proposed change will also provide a financial boost to the SA petanque community. Instead of channeling thousands of dollars to the national body for no appreciable benefit, some of these funds can be directed towards promotion of the game in *this* state. (Of course, some money will still go to PFA as there will still be plenty of clubs and individuals that wish to remain affiliated/licenced.)

Finally, removal of licence requirements will mean that any club choosing not to be affiliated with PFA (such as FAB) can now participate in the state inter-club competition in its own right. The other clubs become free to choose for themselves whether or not they wish to maintain their affiliation.

#### *Proposal re PFA Licences in SA State Competition*

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#### *What about State Championships?*

The principal arguments in support of the second proposal are essentially the same as for the first. However, it has also been suggested that we could remove licence restrictions for *league* but still keep *state championships* as PFA-sanctioned events. We should therefore vote on the two questions separately.

A resolution in favour of (1-A) but against (1-B) could be seen as a compromise between those wishing to open up *all* state competitions and those wishing to maintain the status quo. It would go some way to meeting the concerns of PFA and it might also help to reinforce the concept that the state championships are the highest level of competition in the state.

The problem with going for (1-A) but not (1-B) would be the risk that the state championships, which are already very poorly patronized, might get so few entrants that they

become unviable. This could probably be avoided if we make sure that the ‘three trials’ policy is allowed to be applied.

## Issues / Problems / Solutions

### *Umpires*

An implication of removing licencing requirements is that our state competitions would then be deemed as ‘non-sanctioned events’, in the eyes of the Petanque Federation.

PFA regulations stipulate that PFA officials, such as umpires and coaches, may attend non-sanctioned events but must *not* act as umpires and coaches at those events.

Until now, PFA accreditation has been a requirement before one could act as an umpire for our state comps. Thus, anyone in that category would be automatically prohibited from umpiring in the proposed new ‘non-sanctioned’ league competition. In other words, we would be left with no umpires.

Some will throw their hands up in horror at the thought of a tournament with no umpires, while others might wryly suggest that it could be an improvement. A middle view is that some form of arbitration system is required, but that the proposed changes provide an ideal opportunity to also change from the present authoritarian umpiring culture. Perhaps we could create a more inviting, friendly and relaxed atmosphere if we had ‘referees’ (as opposed to ‘umpires’) who only intervene when invited to do so. This would be when there is a dispute between opposing teams, uncertainty about the rules, or when an independent measure is called for.

### **Proposal (2):**

**PFA umpires will be replaced by referees, who...**

**- are nominated by the clubs.**

**- intervene only when asked, for measuring and resolving disputes.**

**- may form a panel to deal with serious disputes.**

*Proposal re PFA Licences in SA State Competition*

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Specifically, the proposal is that: at time of registration for a state or league tournament, each club nominates up to two players prepared to act as referees for the day. These players should be suitably experienced, have a knowledge of the rules, and be equipped to conduct measures when required. It is up to the club to determine and vouch for the suitability of their nominees. Ideally, some of the current umpires will continue in this role (despite the risk that their PFA accreditation is revoked).

The presence of referees does not mean that players cannot also ask someone who is not a designated referee, if that happens to be more convenient, as long as both teams agree to do so (e.g., for a measure). Measurers are allowed to declare an end “too close to call”, whereby dead-heat rules apply. Above all else, common sense and natural justice should prevail. In the unlikely event that a serious dispute arises, all the nominated referees would form a panel or jury that come together to consider the matter.

### *Insurance*

The other important consequence of moving our state competitions away from the auspices of PFA concerns that all-pervasive issue in modern life – insurance. Players would no longer be covered by PFA insurance (even those players who *are* licensed).

For most clubs, this would not present much of a problem since they already have their own insurance, covering their own members and guests playing on their pistes. For the one or two that don’t, they would need to arrange some kind of additional cover. If not, they would not be able to continue hosting league events (although there would be nothing to prevent the members of such a club competing at the other venues).

Discussion of these matters at the last SAPL meeting led to the suggestion that perhaps we should have a *state-wide* insurance scheme. The idea is that SAPL would arrange an



insurance package that covers all members of all clubs, whether playing at home or away, as well as whatever public liability cover is required for the clubs.

The cost would be met by payments from the clubs, proportional to the number of members at each club. For clubs already insured, one would expect there to be a cost saving as we should be able to negotiate a better deal for a state-wide scheme. For the others, the annual cost is likely to be in the vicinity of \$10 per member, which should be manageable. It's much less than the existing \$45 PFA licence fee.

Participation by all clubs would not be mandatory. It doesn't matter if one or two opt to continue with their present arrangements. Even three clubs would probably be enough to make the exercise worthwhile.

*Proposal re PFA Licences in SA State Competition*

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### **Proposal (3):**

**SAPL will work towards arranging a state-wide insurance package, to replace the current *ad hoc* approach. All members of participating clubs would be covered, whether playing at home or at any of the other clubs, along with guests at club competitions.**

### **The Position of PFA**

The Petanque Federation is insisting that our State Championships and League matches must be run in accordance with PFA by-laws, which stipulate that all players must be licenced. PFA claim to have the authority to do this because their by-laws also deem that state leagues are affiliated with PFA. However, one must question the validity of that claim. For one thing, amongst the relevant by- laws (enacted in 2002) is:

*9.4 A State League will receive revenue from the following sources:*

*(a) an annual financial distribution from Petanque Australia; ...*

It could be argued that the other by- laws are as applicable as this one. The by- laws governing the position of a State League only carry any weight if both parties agree to them. They cannot just be imposed from above.

Then there was this decree to SAPL, in 2008, from the then-president of PFA, Andre Deramond:

*1) State league doesn't exist in our actual constitution*

*2) So a document By-laws referring to a State league is incorrect [sic]*

*3) Club Associations could be the term to use to design[ate] the association of clubs within a state.*

That's a good idea. Why don't we just change our name to SA Petanque Association? The by- laws don't make any reference to state *associations*. There is no law to prevent all players, licenced and unlicenced, coming together for a non-PFA-sanctioned inter-club competition run by an independent association. Problem solved.

*Proposal re PFA Licences in SA State Competition*

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### **Conclusion**

This proposal, if adopted in a spirit of co-operation, has the capacity to reinvigorate South Australian petanque and usher in a new era. From informal discussions held with many present and former league players over the past couple of months, together with recent league meetings, there is clearly widespread support for the removal of licence requirements. I hope that when it comes to a vote, club delegates truly represent the wishes of their club's members.

Anthony Pietsch.