



Recreational Fishing Alliance Of NSW Inc

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE
RECREATIONAL FISHING ALLIANCE OF NSW INC**

**South Sydney AFA Clubhouse,
Cnr Hastings and Macquarie St, Chifley
Saturday 26th June 2010**

1. OPENING

Mal Poole welcomed those present and opened the meeting at 9.42am.

2. ATTENDANCE

Those in attendance where:

Stan Konstantaras (ANSA NSW) Joe Garufi (ANSA NSW), Max Castle (ANSA NSW), Mel Brown (USFA NSW), Peter Saunders (USFA NSW), Peter Gibson (NSWCFA), Mal Poole (NSWFCA)

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:

John Humphries (NSWCFA), Michael Hirst (NSWFCA), Radge Diakaw (NSWCFA), Steve Williamson (PFIGA)

4. GUESTS

Nil

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes presented and moved that they be accepted by Stan K, seconded Peter G. Stan noted that minutes of previous meetings are online and Delegates and Committee should access them this way.

Available at following link <http://rfansw.com.au/Meetings.html#minutes>

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Items moved to General Business.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Stan gave an overview of the current project reporting and general RFA accounts.

Current Bank Balance is \$39,693.00

This consists of:

\$33,936.00 of project funding

\$5,757.00 of RFA funds

Currently there is only one project (L63 – Resource Folder) in deficit as we wait for a 2nd payment on this project. This deficit is covered by the RFA funds in the interim.

Stan spoke about the need to possibly employ a book keeper part time since the scope of our projects was increasing.

Stan was looking at setting up a finance committee to look at this and other issues that he spoke about at the meeting;

1. Book Keeper
2. BAS and GST Issues

Stan to circulate copies of RFA Expense Claim Form and Updated Project Expenditure Spreadsheet

Peter G was finalising Time/Effort work sheets he was working on.

Invoices for RFA 2010/2011 fees will be sent out shortly.

8. DELEGATE REPORTS

The delegates present were asked to provide an update/overview on their group's activities as a way of updating the other delegates and as a way to further gather support for issues if needed.

ANSA NSW

Angel Ring Project has received another \$60K of funding from Consolidated Revenue; this was announced by the Fisheries Minister, Steve Whan.

\$30K was also allocated by the Minister to reproducing the RFA safe fishing brochure that will be sent out with each NSW licence renewal.

ANSA is investigating the use of asset tracking technology in its Angel Rings.

ANSA NSW was looking at the issue of fishing safety when fishing light lines off the rocks. Ongoing discussions are occurring around some of the lighter line classes.

Catch, measure and release was an option that was being taken up by ANSA NSW members in both its annual competitions and record charts. Breakdown is about 50 – 50 in terms of entrants for records.

ANSA attended the recent Mako Shark Conference in Melbourne with the outcome appearing to be beneficial to recreational anglers.

ANSA attended the recent DEWHA meeting with the RFA of NSW to talk about the Commonwealth Marine Parks.

ANSA still has some concerns about the issue of waves at the new boat ramp at Foreshore Rd, Botany Bay.

NSWCFA

Next meeting of Gaden Hatchery Management Committee is on the 17th July.

NSWCFA were still trying to determine who was responsible for the maintenance and capital works at Gaden.

NSWCFA is happy to present a Gaden update to committee at the next meeting of the RFA with regards to the following;

Gaden Management Plan

Asset Plan

Operational Manual

President of CFA has held position for 2 years and will not be standing at the AGM which is being held on the 21st August 2010.

NSWFCA

NSWFCA executive recently met at Hat Head where Mal raised the issue of NSWFCA possibly providing more input and help to the RFA of NSW

NSWFCA were successful in securing \$5000 to run a forum for the NSWFCA clubs that will deal with the issues of incorporation and changes by the Dept of Fair Trading.

NSWFCA do not want to change existing fishing rules. They also plan to run a convention in the north of the State later this year.

NSWFCA receive \$10,000 from Sport and Rec each year.

NSW USFA

The USFA is currently working with the RFA on its spearfishing safety DVD, with the USFA already having completed many sequences that will be used in the DVD.

USFA provided a submission to the NSW Govt. Fishing Inquiry and had recently appeared in person at the Inquiry. Already some positive outcomes were being achieved.

The USFA has resolved the slipper lobster debate they were having with Jervis Bay Marine Park staff. The management reverts back to DII- Fisheries management to ensure consistency with the fishing rules.

10,000 Guide to Spearfishing booklets have been reproduced.

The USFA manned a stand at the Shooters Shot Show Expo.

PFIGA

The PFIGA will provide some information for the next RFA Bulletin about what they do and why we should be using accredited guides.

9. AGENDA ITEMS

9 a. Fishing Inquiry

Mal thanked all the RFA members for their input into our submission and also Peter G for collating and submitting the document.

See Attachment 1.

The RFA has asked to present on the second last day of the Inquiry, and will also present a written response on the day. This will be a 3-5 page summary and include;

1. Representational Structure within NSW

2. Incorporation of NSW fishing clubs
3. Reinforce the RFA members' views

Mal is to draft and then submit to RFA Fishing Inquiry Sub-Committee for comment.

9 b. RFA membership

The RFA is looking at expanding the committee positions and getting more grassroots support. Joe G to assist in promoting the RFA with a campaign focus at achieving more exposure for the RFA.

Peter G to set up RFA Facebook page.

Stan K spoke about potential members of the RFA of NSW and will ask the Committee for new contacts.

Joe G and Peter G to start working on a list of achievements to utilise in membership drive.

9 c. Access

Solitary Is, Jervis Bay and Lord Howe Is Marine Park plans are up for review and Max C is currently chasing up terms of reference for submissions so we can better understand how the numbers games will unfold.

Max reported that the discussion paper on competitions was still being developed by ACoRF.

Discussion also occurred on the subject of a MOU that needs to be established with National Parks similar to what VRFish has achieved with Parks Victoria.

Discussion also occurred on the proposed Tourism Bill from NPWS and how the National Park Association and Nature Conservation Council were against this Bill.

9 d. Trust Fund Updates

Stan gave updates on the various ongoing RFA projects.

1. RFA Rockfishing Workshops – Workshop underway with close to 50 Chinese anglers hosted at Nth Curl Curl Beach. A Korean workshop is planned on the 19th July and Vietnamese one on the 28th August.
2. RFA Rockfishing Safety Folder – 30,000 copies are being distributed via the Surf Life saving mailing house in Melbourne on behalf of the RFA.
3. Freshwater safety DVD complete and 1500 copies distributed. The RFA will ask the NSWCFCA to take over reproduction and distribution of the DVD.
4. RFA Access project is moving along slowly. NSWCFCA will put together information package and then work will begin on the Access Officer component.

9e. AFMA / DEWHA Update

AFMA has helped coordinate meetings around NSW with DEWHA staff to talk to local fishers about the Commonwealth Marine Park process.

RFA is still looking at displaced activities outcomes for recreational and commercial anglers.

Discussion also occurred around the issue of compliance and the Commonwealth has agreed that the state agencies will deal with this issue. Discussion also occurred on the subject of uniformity of rules and the RFA agreed that they must follow the EPBC Act.

10. General Business

- Max Castle spoke on some of the projects he has been working on;
 1. Clean Wharves initiatives – we had a good outcome that we just need to manage
 2. NPWS wanted Fish Rock and Flat Rock off South West Rocks to be brought under their management; however this was stopped at an ACoRF level.
 3. Max was disappointed with the acceptance of recreational fishing issues at the Maritime Recreational Vessels Advisory Committee. Many of our suggestions were not being acted upon.

- Peter Gibson spoke on the Freshwater Fishing Calendar that DII was producing and questioned its value for money. He also spoke on the project applications process that the RFA undertakes and suggested that draft forms are submitted to the RFA Committee as a form of governance. All agreed.

- Stan to suggest meeting dates for AGM. Looking at October 2010.

- Stan was also pleased to see NSWCFR and USFA taking over existing RFA safety projects and running them under their own steam.

- RFA to seek strategic partnerships with the BIA and AFTA on issues relating to fishing safety. Informal links already exist, but a formal agreement similar to what we have with Surf Life Saving will be sought. Stan to chase up.

- RFA funding issues were discussed and it was agreed that our Business Plan be finalised and that we then go in and see Sport and Rec to discuss our options.

- Discussion also occurred on the upcoming Federal Election and it was agreed that after this election the RFA should ask for the major NSW parties recreational fishing policies.

- Discussion also occurred around the issue of full RECFISH membership for the RFA of NSW. Max C moved a motion that we apply for membership, seconded by Joe G and approved unanimously.

With no more general business Mal Poole closed the meeting at 2.20pm

**Stan Konstantaras
RFA of NSW Secretary
14th August 2010**

Abbreviations:

DII – Department of Industry and Investment – Fisheries NSW

ACoRF – NSW Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing

RFSTEC- Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee

RFH – Recreational Fishing Haven

NPWS- National Parks and Wildlife

Attachment No 1

RFA Submission the Fishing Inquiry

The following submission made by Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (Mr Peter Gibson) in relation to the [Inquiry into Recreational fishing](#) was received on 22/03/2010 by the [Recreational Fishing Committee](#).

<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Prod/parlment/committee.nsf/0/EB8A92B2133CE7FCCA2576F80005C69E>