



USFA

Meeting Minutes #2

9 March 2023

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USFA MEETING MINUTES



Location: Online meeting (Google meetup)
Date: 9 March 2023
Time: 8:00pm – 9:30pm
Facilitator: Simon Trippe
Minute taker: Ian Buck

0 | Agenda Items

1. General Business
2. President Report
3. Spearfishing Cups
4. Committee Reports
5. Building Membership
6. New USFA records
7. Summary of Actions



1 | Attendance

Role	Name	Attendance
Chair	Simon Trippe	Attended
Vice Chair	Parry Gryllis	Apologies
Treasurer	Evan Leeson	Apologies
Secretary	Ian Buck	Attended
Sports Assistant	Lee Dali	Apologies
First Nations Liaison Officer	David Lehā	Apologies
Membership Officer	Ricardo Casquete	Apologies
Historical Officer	Mel Brown	Apologies
Mosman Whalers delegate	Steven Park	Apologies
Public officer	Alby Cooke	Attended
NSUC	Adam Price	Apologies
NSUC	Justin Delaney	Apologies
Port Hacking Penguins Del.	Pat Ireland	Attended
Sydney Orcas Delegate	Bob McComb	Apologies
Spectator	Sam K	Attended

2 | USFA meeting minutes

2.1 | General Business

- USFA 75th anniversary
 - Created sub-committee to organise
 - Finding right venue
 - Venues are wanting up to \$20K
 - Lee to negotiate Long Reef Golf Club, can run service from Manly to venue
- Spearfishing community
 - Freediving as an activity is increasing
 - Converting to associating membership and to clubs is challenge
 - Safe selected and sustainable (SSS)
- Being engaged by Freediving group, Sydney Apnea Hunting Club
 - 300 people max, lead by Peter
 - Visited San Souci Dolphins
 - USFA happy to happy all fledgling start ups and offer guidance and assistance
 - Two clubs
 - Freediving Club
 - Sydney Apnea Hunting Club
- Membership – Annual vs monthly
 - Rolling memberships support members in reducing admin
 - Monthly membership no longer being considered

Constitution

- Need meetings to get across the line
- Simon to request Mel Brown for assistance in delivering finality

2.2 | President Report

Presidents Report

75 years young is the USFA! That right on April 4th 1948 several hundred people interested in this new sport gathered at Collaroy Beach and formed a committee to protect spearfishers rights, fight for access and ensure the sport continued to thrive, these wonderful Australians all I am sure would be proud that in 2023 spearfishing is thriving again across the country, however we need to continue to be alert to any changes in the wind where we may have access lost or desirable fish taken from us, it is and always will be an ongoing battle. The USFA committee will welcome anyone with positive energy who would like to contribute to keeping the “flag flying”.

USFA 75th Anniversary celebration

We have a sub committee, we have energy, we just need to find the “right” venue. Watch this space, we are planning on giving six months of notice for what will be a special occasion.

Increasing membership starting with your club

Spearfishing seems to still be thriving in NSW judging by social media pages, some of this attention is from platforms such as Youtube, a big pulse is the Freediving bug, freediving is really attracting many demographics and some of these are coming into spearfishing, which is great for all. Converting them to Association membership, even to lure these newcomers to a club though has challenges.

Although it seems that many people are on board with the SSS catch cry – that being our mantra “Safe – Selective – Sustainable” however knowing that clubs provide a welcoming environment, their members are well instructed on ethics and dive safety, let alone being able to show someone how to dive a little better to catch a fish for dinner and where the members feel safe and thrive in this environment seems foreign to most. People are wary of approaching a club having ideas that they are cartels of fish death and marine devastation with too many egos; a toxic environment with no women leave alone kids participating. Laugh, I have, however I get this feedback, too, most people do not realise that the USFA and its clubs represent all spearos in NSW and will fight for their right to Spearfish along the coast. Food for thought, and I welcome you to have a conversation with me on how we can further improve an already good vessel.

Events:

We had a great Sydney Cup with several Independents fishing the event and three of these Independents placed in the Top 3 – well done to Warren Carter Sydney Cup Champion, Oly Wady and Jack Lavender who fished together, quite an impressive southern boat crew. The Canada Cup has been postponed due to poor weather.

Riffe at Adreno

This was such a great evening, over 100 spearos turned out to see Jill, daughter of Jay Riffe, launch their new speargun the Raider, some great videos matched the lively Q&A session, a highlight two attendees relayed to me was the spearo who came in with a small timber gun and began showing Jill how to make a good timber roller gun, buy that man a beer. (Riffe are renowned for making high quality, very large, multi-band spearguns)



Figure 1 - Riffe Night at Adreno

Kingfish Slot size: Rumours abound of a 100cm maximum size for Kingfish – where there's smoke there is generally fire, as was stated in previous minutes the Dusky Flathead slot size would be the beginning of the end for several sought after species for spearfishers, Sports fishing and Spearfishing are two completely different past times, why one of them doesn't even use a snorkel....excuse my humour. We will be kept updated I hope on any further movements on this issue.

USFA AGM is set down for June 8th.

Thank you,

Simon Trippe

2.3 | Spearfishing Cups

2.3.1 | Canada Cup 2023 - Alastair Cooke

- Canada Cup - 12th Feb
- Cancelled due to poor conditions

2.3.2 | Sydney Cup 2023

- Won by Warren Carter, (South Coast)

2.3.3 | State titles 2022/2023

- 2022: State titles did not occur due to poor weather
- 2023: State titles - 3rd weekend of May
 - Third weekend in May (same location, caravan parks)
 - Camp whole weekend \$80 for two nights, two people
 - Powered sites
 - Cabins (only 9, \$250 a night)
 - First day – more remote sites
 - Second day at Norra Head (few hundred meters away)
 - Clash with AUF titles (resolved)

2.3.4 | Mahi muster 2024

- In planning stages

2.4 | Committee Reports

2.4.1 | Treasurer report

- \$14,400 of funds available
- No outstanding invoices
- June 2023 new insurance due: \$15K
 - Comprehensive insurance
 - Public liability

2.4.2 | Club reports

2.4.2.1 | NSUF – Adam Price

Positions voted in for 2023 for NSUC below

President	Justin Delaney
Vice President	Adam Price
Secretary	Lee Dalli
Treasurer/Public Officer	Julian Chan
Sports Secretary	Jarleth White
Safety Officer	Timmy Forster
Weigh Master	Tristan Anne/ Gary Brook
Social/Party Officers	Ali Gordon/ Brett Whalan
Club Liaisons	Christian Murace/ Carmen Bolton
Inter Club Rep (USFA/Zone)	Justin Delaney/ Lee Dalli/ Adam Price/ Michael Hopkins
Assistant Sports Sec	Michael Hopkins
Training Coordinator	Zac Werrett

2.4.2.2 | Sans Souci Dolphins

- Dolphins AGM was held on 13th Dec, and committee for 2023 selected
- Next AGM is on Dec 12th 2023.

President:	Vita Malukova
Vice President:	Sahil Prasad
Treasurer:	Shane McLynn
Sports Secretary (club events):	Gary Maclachlan, Ricardo Casquete, Nick Bradish
Sports Secretary (non club events):	David Greig, Davide Tagini, Sahil Prasad
Records Officer:	Simon Trippe
Minutes Secretary:	Greg White
Zone Delegates:	Sahil Prasad, Parry Gryllis
BBQ King:	Alex Sehring, Davide Torriglia, Rasmus Björkman, Andrew Aslanidis
Social Media:	Sam Krywulycz, Lynton Howes
Safety Officers:	Ben Lake, Parry Gryllis, Luke Kleinhans
Merchandise Officer:	Vince Isagba
Fundraising Officer:	Patrick Mullins

Call March 23 for Dolphins meeting

<https://sanssoucidolphins.org/about-us/committee/>

2.4.2.3 | First Nations Mulloways

Current club committee for the year, we are looking to have these positions filled asap.

President -	David Leha
VP -	Vacant
Treasurer -	Vacant
Secretary -	Vacant

- Club's AGM likely to be - September 2023.
- Mulloways started off strong and although facing a few challenges we are still hanging in there.
- During 2022 we had a number of dives and trips. We continue to hold the space open for weekly dives and going through the "basics".
- We have attended other USFA events such as Sealions Club meetings and competitions and meetings with the USFA President and have attended supporters events such as those held at Adreno.
- David Leha has secured role on Indigenous fishing council
- Adreno supported Mulloways event
 - Donated 20+ masks and snorkels
 - Great response on social media
 - To make blog post

2.4.2.4 | Contacts for clubs

- Adam Price - North Shore Underwater Club
- Steven Park - Mosman Whalers
- Gary Baxter - Port Hacking Penguins
- Bob McComb - Sydney Orcas
- Sahil Prasad - Sans Souci Dolphins
- Josh Ward - Central Coast Sealions
- David Leha - First Nations Mulloways
- Lee Dalli - Metro Zone President

2.5 | Building Membership

- Adreno agreed to promote USFA with merch/media
 - In store and online signup, keep your customers safe with safety guidelines, ethics and sustainability.
 - ACTION: To put together pitch for Adreno for USFA membership in online sales (discount applied to order if USFA membership added) – Ian Buck
- ACTION: Create map of Sydney clubs for Adreno - Ian Buck
 - New spearos can identify their local club and follow contact details to join community and learn skills

2.6 | New USFA records

2.6.1 | New Green Jobfish NSW record

Jonathan Cassell from the always progressive north coast club the Coffs Harbour Bluewater Freedivers has landed quite the fish. This amazing Green Jobfish is the new USFA NSW record and was speared in the Solitary Island group, it was 106cm long and a couple of grams over 13 kilos.



Figure 2 - USFA NSW record Jobfish - Jonathan Cassell

2.6.2 | New Western Foxfish NSW record

Justin Ewan recently landed a new NSW record Western Foxfish (*Bodianus frenchii*) of 1478gm. Long time St George member Andrew Boomer held the record previously of 1430gm. Interestingly the NSW record has come from the same area at least three times.



Figure 3 – New Western Foxfish record - Andrew Boomer

2.7 | Summary of actions

#	Theme	Action	Owner
1	Comms	USFA email creation	Sam
2	Comms	Meeting minutes	Ian Buck
3	Fair trading	Register USFA with Department of Fair Trading	Simon, Mel, Alby
4	Media	Refresh social media	Sam, Simon
5	Mulloyways	Social media support	Sam
6	Policy	Need spearfishing representatives on advisory panels	Simon
7	Constitution	To kick start constitution process	Mel Brown
8	Membership	Pull together pitch for Adreno for USFA membership	Ian Buck
9	Website	Mulloyways & Adreno blog post	David Leha
10	Membership	Create map of Sydney clubs for Adreno	Ian Buck
11	Membership	Send Ian Sydney Apnea Hunting Club link	Ian Buck

2.8 | Future Meetings

All members welcome to attend, start time 1900, venues to be announced

- June 8, 2023, AGM

