**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Annual General Meeting**

Meeting Venue: Newcastle Convention & Exhibition Centre, 309 King Street, Newcastle and via Lumi online delegate platform

Meeting Date: Tuesday 24 October 2024

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| **Present – Board** | **Present – Management** |
| Ray James (President) | Jon Black, Chief Executive Officer |
| Sophie Ray (Chair RSL NSW Board) | Giles Hurst, Incoming Chief Executive Officer |
| Phillip Chin | Jeff O’Brien, State Secretary & Company Secretary |
| Steve Graham | Nicole Hasrouni, Chief Financial Officer |
| Jason Hazell | Tim Clayton, General Counsel |
| David McCann | Isaac Ohlin, Head of Veteran Policy & PD |
| Louise Sullivan | Trina Constable, Head of Comms, Marketing & Membership |
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| **Incoming Directors**  Mick Bainbridge (President Elect)  Paul James  Charles New  Sarah Watson | **Apologies**  Phillip Bridie   |  | | --- | | Jim Hungerford | | John Hutcheson | |

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| **Present** | **Invitees** |
| 189 delegates | Kym Reilly, PKF^ |

*^part of meeting only*

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| **Opening** |
| Ray James (RJ), the President and Chair of the meeting, noted that a quorum was present and declared the meeting open at 12:07pm.  The Board members were introduced to the delegates. |

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| **President’s Report** |
| The history of the motto we currently used was highlighted and noted that it originated in the early 1900’s and was agreed on in November 1923: “The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance”.  The volunteers were thanked for all their work together across the state, supporting all veterans and their families as well as RSL LifeCare for the services they delivered and commended the sub-Branches for the commemorative services conducted across all our communities, noting that every member with a veteran services card could connect a veteran in need with quality Veteran services.  The members who had passed away were remembered and new members were welcomed, noting that the average age of membership had dropped from 78 to 71. The younger members were thanked for taking up executive roles in the sub-Branches and District Council as well as the new members who joined the Young Veterans Committee.  The older members were reminded that the younger members could have family obligations that currently prevented them from engaging actively but that they should still be encouraged to remain engaged which was vital for succession planning.  The public apology made to the Vietnam Veterans who were turned away from the RSL was reiterated and members were encouraged to make all veterans feel welcome irrespective of where they served their country.  The Sport & Rec programme, which was previously a strategic plan initiative and was now operating successfully, was commended, and noted that this programme was encouraging veterans to participate and become engaged. The volunteers were thanked for their time and sub-Branches were thanked for their donations to the Veteran Support Fund and Support & Assistance Fund.  The following thank you’s were announced:   * the sub-Branches for the donations to RSL LifeCare to help provide the veterans with the much needed services at the Veteran Wellbeing Centres in Nowra, Wagga Wagga, Dee Why and Newcastle. * All the District Council Presidents and sub-Branches who participated and helped RSL LifeCare establish a business case for the 5 new Veteran Wellbeing Centres to be developed in the Hunter, Tweed, Queanbeyan, Hawkesbury and SW Sydney and the Central Coast. * The sub-Branches for their continued financial support which enabled the league to have a continued presence at NCVH, noting that the RSL NSW Liaison Officer, Bronte Pollard worked tirelessly to ensure that clients were connected to the necessary support.   The sub-Branches were encouraged to include the Royal Commission on their agenda’s noting that the Royal Commission report would be delivered next year. The evidence clearly reported that ex-service organisations had work to do to rectify their actions towards veterans who were failed by these organisations, including the RSL.  The Minister for Veterans’ Affairs and the Royal Commission indicated that a peak body be established and noted that the RSL had held multiple forums to establish what a peak body would look like and made recommendations to the Royal Commission, suggesting that as the largest organisation the RSL should be the peak body, however, this could only happen if all parties internally and across the wider ESO network worked together and ensured that everything we did contributed to achieving our charitable purpose. Noting that we would have to be prepared to face emerging issues and be held accountable.  The Board and District Presidents’ Council had been working together to develop and implement new Policies and Standard Operating Procedures to ensure that the members were protected as they undertook their roles and that the charitable obligations were being met.  The strategic plan was centred around doing more for the veterans and the members were urged to collaborate across the state to ensure that the RSL remained the leading ESO that was doing more for veterans and their families, noting that none of this would be achieved without the valued network of RSL members.  RJ thanked the members for their trust to lead the league noting that his tenure as President ended at the rise of Congress. RJ welcomed the new CEO, Giles Hurst, and wished the outgoing CEO, Jon Black, all the best during his retirement. RJ congratulated the President Elect, Mick Bainbridge. |

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| **Financial and Audit Report** |
| Nicole Hasrouni (NH) presented the special purpose Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 noting that the Board approved the financials at their meeting on 21 September 2023. She advised that no new accounting standards were adopted in the financial year and the financial statements were prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, noting that the ACNC had new rules with regards to third party transactions effective 2024.  The following information was highlighted:   * Summary of breakdown in revenue was provided noting; donations, increased hotel revenue and fair value gain on investments and the gain on sale of the Concord property in 2022. * Expenditure breakdown was detailed noting employee expenses including the Hyde Park Inn (HPI) staff. * Professional services fee related to the strategic plan. * Key balance sheet movements included cash on hand, held on behalf of sub-Branches who were in the process of becoming a Chapter of another sub-Branch. * Liquidity reflected large cash on hand position noting that those funds were donated to RSL LifeCare Veteran Services (RSL LC) after 30 June 2023. * The organisation had enough current assets to meet debts as they fell due. * VSF targets that were achieved were due to the donations received from the sub-Branches. * VSF Initiatives for 2024 would be uploaded online by 1 November 2023. * Sub-Branches who donated funds to RSL LifeCare in a total amount of $2.6m were thanked for their contribution. Noting that this amount excluded the funds transferred from AFOF and previous funds received for disaster relief which were also donated to RSL LifeCare. * The volunteers who raised funds for RSL LifeCare and the volunteers who did fundraising on ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day were thanked. * 262 Castlereagh was valued each year and had to be valued at fair value. * Future minimum sale price of $95m had been used for HPI noting the book value was used to determine the split between the assets. Settlement was to occur in the future and uplift had been factored into the value. * Development application was approved in July 2023 and ANZAC House were working with Central Element to determine the settlement date. * Related party transactions were discussed and included AFOF and RSL LifeCare. * Donations to RSL LifeCare were recorded as RSL NSW was the sole member. * Any sub-Branches considering a decision regarding donations should be made in the charities own best interest and not in favour of key personnel. This would require transparency. Note would be issued to sub-Branches detailing the requirements.   Kym Reilly (KR), PKF audit partner, presented her report, confirming that the audit was complete and unqualified and that PKF received full cooperation from management, that all deadlines were met and that there were no disagreements or signs of fraud, noting that all key audit risks were adequately addressed and that they were satisfied that internal control was appropriate and working effectively. The financial statements were signed on 21 September 2023 and provided a true and fair view as at 30 June 2023. KR confirmed PKF were independent of the organisation and satisfied that the organisation had the ability to continue as a going concern. Board and management were responsible for providing accurate records.  KR thanked the Board, Audit & Risk Committee, and management for their cooperation.  When questioned why a large reserve was maintained NH explained that the reserves were net assets and that HPI and 262 Castlereagh St properties had to be held on the balance sheets until the sale went through at which stage those reserves would be invested to further the charitable purpose and to ensure financial sustainability of the organisation to maintain itself into the future.  When questioned what would happen to the sales proceeds of HPI and whether they would be special purpose funds or used for RSL needs, NH advised that the management team would seek approval from the Board after considering the best use of the funds, however, it was important that the Board agreed not to utilise the funds and to only use the returns on the funds.  A suggestion was made to simplify any notes on the financial statement. |
| **Rules and Voting Procedure** |
| RJ outlined the rules and procedures to be used during the meeting including the voting procedures. He reminded Delegates to submit their votes at the appropriate times. |

RJ advised that 3 proxies had been received. Votes were cast and would be included in the results.

*The following motions required a simple majority of 50.1% to carry.*

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| **Motions for Consideration** |
| **1. Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting**  That the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting were adopted.  **Results:**  For: 98.84 %  Against:1.16 %  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| **2. Register of Motions**  That members note:   1. the summary Register of Motions passed at the 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022 Annual Congress and the status of their implementation; and that 2. in accordance with the resolution passed by Members at the 2019 Congress, that an updated Register will be provided to members within two (2) calendar months of the conclusion of the 2023 AGM.   **Results:**  For: 99.46 %  Against:0.54 %  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| **3. Endorse Wording of Constitution**  That Members endorse the wording of amendments to the RSL NSW Constitution that were approved at the 2022 RSL NSW Annual General Meeting and came into effect on 1 January 2023.  **Results:**  For: 98.92 %  Against:1.08 %  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| **4. Annual Report, Financial Statements and Auditors Reports**  That the Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report for RSL NSW for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 were adopted and the requirement to lodge the Annual Report of RSL NSW for the year ended 30 June 2023 with the Minister for Veterans Affairs following the 2023 AGM was noted.  **Results:**  For: 100 %  Against:0 %  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| **5. Venue for next Annual State Congress & AGM**  THAT the venue for the next Annual Congress/Annual General Meeting (and where possible any extraordinary general meeting) to be conducted by way of in person attendance, will be at **Newcastle Exhibition & Convention Centre, 309 King Street, Newcastle West** with the Board to determine whether or not such next meeting will be held by way of in person attendance or by remote technology in its discretion.  **Results:**  For: 95.56 %  Against:4.44%  **Motion Carried and Resolution Passed** |

*The following motions required a simple majority of 50.1% to carry.*

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| **6. ANZAC House Motions** |
| 6.1 **Acknowledgment of the Fallen**  **Proposer – Brooklyn sub-Branch**  That RSL NSW adopt the following Acknowledgement of the Fallen for utilisation at meetings and gatherings where members feel that it is appropriate to do so:  *Acknowledgement of the Fallen*  *“I/We acknowledge the veterans of our commonwealth and of our allies:*  *Those who serve and have served,*  *Those prepared to support our citizens, regardless of colour, creed or persuasion.*  *Those who have suffered, bled and died for us.*  *I/We honour and respect our fallen comrades...*  *(followed by the Ode where considered appropriate).”*  **Moved:** Mike Fish, Brooklynsub-Branch  Commended the motion for its support, believed it was appropriate and deserving of support.  **Seconded:** Derek Leslie, Northern Metropolitan DC  **Speaker against the motion:** Brian Boughton, East Mailand sub-Branch  The speaker believed it was unnecessary to override the Ode that currently existed for the fallen and was used widely by all RSL states and that any changes would require a policy change through RSL National.  **Speaker against the motion**: Keith Prat, Penshurst sub-Branch  Penshurst sub-Branch discussed and agreed to vote no on this motion and believe that some people are trying to erode the traditions of the RSL. Noting that any people who disrespect the Ode should be educated.    **Speaker for the motion:**  Derek Leslie, Northern Metropolitan DC  Derek Leslie advised he was the author of motion and that this was merely a proposal for when something more than the Ode was required and would by no means be compulsory to use.  **Results:**  For: 27.27%  Against:72.73%  **Motion Lost** |
| 6.2 **Recognition of Partners of Veterans**  **Proposer – Castle Hill sub-Branch**  That partners of serving and ex-serving members are recognised for the exceptional support that they have given to their Australian Defence Force members in peace and war.  **Moved:** David Hand, Castle Hill sub-Branch  Believed that partners should be recognised for the support they give while their partners are away and believed that this would help to keep families together and assist with the retention of service in the ADF. He further believed that the AGM Agenda Committee were incorrect in their position as the partners could be active ADF members and RSL members and would therefore not entitle them to be a merit or gold badge recipient. He acknowledged that the establishment of criteria and selection process would be difficult to determine but it would not be impossible. The Selection Committee would proceed as others had done in the past.  **Seconded:** David Ingram, Far Western Metro DC  Believed the issue was that the agenda committee misunderstood that this was an RSL award but was actually a defence award to wives or husbands that had gone overseas. Noting that there was often limited notice given before a lengthy deployment and it seemed to be worthy of recognising the spouses. A badge used to be given to spouses and the award would be similar to that badge.  **Speaker against the motion:** Joanne Beavis,Miranda sub-Branch  The sub-Branch discussed this at length and after speaking to ADF spouses, all spouses and children serve alongside their partners/parents, and they all agreed that this motion would be divisive putting one spouse up against another.  **Speaker against the motion:** David McCann, RSN NSW Board  Thanked Castle Hill and David Ingram for the clarification, however this was an example of a motion that should have been submitted to the Veteran Services & Policy Committee (VSPC) before coming to Congress. He agreed that recognition of spouse and family was significant but whether this should be an RSL award was debatable. Noting that if the motion passed it would go the VSPC to action further and advised that should this motion be lost, he would take the discussion with the proposer offline.  **Speaker against the motion:** Graham Docksey, Albury sub-Branch  Questioned which wife would get the certificate?  **Speaker against the motion:** Cath Harvey, Branxton sub-Branch  Advised that the ADF recently gave out medals to children of serving parents to wear on ANZAC Day. Did not believe further awards were necessary.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There were no speakers for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 20.54 %  Against:79.46 %  **Motion Lost** |
| 6.3 **Middle East Area of Operations Annual Commemoration**  **Proposer – Glenorie sub-Branch**  That RSL NSW lobby RSL Australia to establish the 11th of July annually as the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO) National Commemorative Day, with the inaugural commemoration being 11 July 2024.  **Moved:** Graham Bruce, Glenorie sub-Branch (online)  Believed it was important to recognise the ADF personnel and MEAO operations and that no other operations lasted 20 years. Questioned how we could expect these veterans to join the RSL if we did not offer a day of commemoration, and that these veterans could possibly join another ESO that was more aligned to them.  **Seconded:** David Hand, Castle Hill sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:** Richard Menhinick, Avalon sub-Branch  Advised that the navy was deployed to the Gulf continuously for 30 years and served in that area well before these dates mentioned of operating from 2001. Recommended that the date be amended.  **Speaker against the motion:** Gail Turnbull,Glen Innes sub-Branch  Their district believes this is a clinical date and not a military date, there were other key dates in that time frame, eg Liberation of Kuwait, job done in Iraq and major victories in Afghanistan, Like Vietnam Veterans Day and Long Tan Day, the date should be a military achievement and not a political ramification date.  **Speaker for the motion**: Brian Boughton, East Maitland sub-Branch  Supported the motion and having a national day, but questioned whether RSL National would be able to proclaim the day of recognition or would that be a government issue.  **Speaker for the motion**: Sean Phillips, Milton/Ulladulla sub-Branch  Have already run a service at Milton/Ulladulla and note that this date is the day that the last person was pulled out of the area. Whatever went before that day closes the campaign off.  **Results:**  For: 72.53 %  Against:27.47%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |

6.4 **Australian National Flag Protocol**

**Proposer – Moree sub-Branch**

That RSL NSW endorse the use of the Australian Flags booklet issued by the Australian Government as the correct protocol for the use of flags prescribed under the Flags Act 1953 by RSL NSW sub-Branches.

**Moved:** John Williams, Moree sub-Branch

Advised that there has been trouble with people wanting to fly flags that are not national flags. Protocol is put out by the government and should be followed. RSL should be one with the proper protocol.

**Seconded:** Gary Mawson, Ramsgate-Rockdale sub-Branch

**Speaker against the motion:**

There was no speaker against the motion.

**Speaker for the motion**:

There was no speaker for the motion.

**Results:**

For: 96.72 %

Against:3.28%

**Motion Carried and Resolution passed**

6.5 **National Membership**

**Proposer – City of Albury sub-Branch**

That RSL NSW:

1. supports the concept of introducing National Membership of the RSL; and

2. should pursue National Membership of the RSL with RSL Australia and the other RSL State Branches.

**Moved:** Graham Docksey, Albury sub-Branch

Withdrew the motion citing that given the amount of work done by RSL NSW and waiting on the report from the Royal Commission due in 2024 that there was enough work to do.

**Seconded:** Rodney Cooper, Wagga Wagga sub-Branch

**Motion withdrawn**

*The following motions required a simple majority of 50.1% to carry.*

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| **7. Veteran Policy Motions** |
| 7.1 **NSW Government Entitlements**  **Proposer – Far South Western DC**  That RSL NSW make representation to the NSW Government to offer similar exemptions and discounts to veterans and their families as offered by the Victorian Government.  **Moved:** Lee Warren, Wangi Wangisub-Branch  The actual practice isn’t exactly as written in the motion, however if you have a pension discount on one registration you don’t get the $100. You do, however, get free travel. You get a defence card saying you served.  **Seconded:** Barry Kennedy, Crookwell sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 79.43 %  Against:20.57%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| 7.2 **Veteran Homelessness**  **Proposer – Ourimbah-Lisarow**  That RSL NSW approach the Minister for Homelessness to introduce into the NSW Parliament a Bill for an Act to provide all veterans and their dependents with a legally enforceable right to shelter of a standard that enables them to meet the cost of living in New South Wales.  **Moved:** Howard Bell, Ourimbah-Lisarow sub-Branch  The proposer presented the supporting argument issued with the Notice of Meeting.  **Seconded:** Greg Mawson, Gosford sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 92.13 %  Against:7.87%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| 7.3 **Compensation Advocacy**  **Proposer – City of Queanbeyan**  That RSL NSW forward any matters affecting sub-Branch compensation advocates to the individual sub-Branches for voting, particularly with regard to the harmonisation of veteran entitlement legislation.  **Moved:** Edward Helm,City of Queanbeyan sub-Branch  Advocates are not being kept informed of discussions held between State Branch and DVA and are requesting that information is disseminated to advocates before RSL NSW progresses matters to RSL National.  **Seconded:** Malcom Ritchie, Goulburn sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 74.32%  Against:25.68%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |

*The following motions required a special resolution two-thirds majority (66.7%) to carry*

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| **8. Constitutional Motions** |
| 8.1 **Amend clause 9.9 (f)**  **Proposer – Forestville**  That clause 9.9 (f) of the RSL NSW Constitution be amended to read:  9.9 To accept and continue to hold office as an Elected Director, a person must not:  (f) become disqualified from managing corporations under the Corporations Act;  **Motion withdrawn by the proposing sub-Branch prior to commencement of the AGM.** |
| 8.2 **Amend clause 15.9**  **Proposer – Alstonville**  That clause 15.9 of the RSL NSW Constitution be amended to read:  15.9 The sub-Branch President and any Vice-Presidents must be active Service Members, and all other sub-Branch Executives and Committee must be active Service Members, Affiliate Members or Auxiliary Members attached to the sub-Branch. All positions are to be nominated and elected by the members attached to that sub-Branch in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures set out from time to time.”  **Moved:** John Gordon,Alstonvillesub-Branch  Commended the motion and explained that this was a way to attract new people with fresh ideas and to make the auxiliaries feel more inclusive and not just be fundraisers, he believed this was vital for country sub-Branches to keep their heads above water.  **Seconded:** Barbara Edwards, Picton-Thirlmere-Bargo sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:** Brian Willey, Lower North Coast DC  Advised that this conflicted with clause 15.4 that required an affiliate member to be a secretary or a treasurer and noting that the DPC would be reviewing membership through SOP2 next year and that a number of issues would be addressed during the review.  **Right of reply** – John Gordon advised that this did not compete with clause 15.4 as this was about the formation of the sub-Branch and not about electing officials.  **Results:**  For: 39.01 %  Against:60.99 %  **Motion Lost** |
| 8.3 **Amend 16.3**  **Proposer – RSL NSW Board**  That clause 16.3 of the RSL NSW Constitution be amended to read:  16.3 A sub-Branch Executive may not be appointed to hold the position of, and act as a Trustee.  **Moved:** Steve Graham, RSL NSW Board  The current clause allows any member of the executive to hold a position of sub-Branch Trustee as well. Noting that it is best practice to have a separation of roles and a chequered balance against the other, having dual roles puts the assets at risk. If sub-Branches did not have enough members to act as executives and as trustees then RSL Custodian could be appointed as co-Trustee, noting that Custodian had the same responsibility as sub-Branch Trustees to act on advice of the sub-Branch. It should be noted that Custodian facilitated a reduction in brokerage fees when reviewing financial recommendations.  **Seconded:** Barbara Edwards, Picton-Thirlmere-Bargo sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:** Edward Helm,City of Queanbeyan sub-Branch  Believed the League was becoming overly bureaucratic. Noting that it was not always possible to get people appointed in executive positions, but that there was no need to amend the clause as tabled, as we are comrades in arms and therefore you would think everyone would reflect a sense of honesty and reliability working in these positions to the benefit of the league.  **Speaker against the motion:** David Clarke, Western Metropolitan District Council  Believed that 70% of sub-Branches would be affected by this amendment and sub-Branches had responsible people as Trustees, so was not sure where the risk was.  Trustees weren’t involved in the day to day running so did not see where the clash would lie. Sub-Branches that appointed Custodian made their choice, but a solidarity of respect was required for other sub-Branches to make their own choice and not be dictated to as per the Constitution.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 22.91%  Against:77.09%  **Motion Lost** |
| 8.4 **Insert new clause 21.3**  **Proposer – Five Dock**  That the RSL NSW Constitution be amended by inserting the following clause: -  ***“21.3*** *All policies and Standard Operating Procedures are to be within the scope specified in clause 2.1 and APPENDIX A – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION.”*  And that subsequent clauses be renumbered.  **Moved:** Robert Campbell**,** Five Dock sub-Branch  David Clarke advised that this was a housekeeping motion to tidy up the definitions and requested that care was taken to ensure that when SOP’s or policies were drafted that the definitions matched the definitions already used in the appendix, and that the SOPs and policies had definitions included.  **Seconded:** David Ingram, Far Western Metro DC  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 83.52 %  Against:16.48%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| 8.5 **Amend Appendix A**  **Proposer – Five Dock**  That the RSL NSW Constitution be amended at APPENDIX A – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION.  “**Policies and Standard Operating Procedures**”  By deleting “and Standard Operating Procedures” and by deleting “and/or procedures” so that it reads:  “**Policies** means policies issued by the Board from time to time applicable to sub-Branches.”  **Moved:** Robert Campbell**,** Five Dock sub-Branch  David Clarke advised that this was a housekeeping matter to tidy up the accuracy and definitions.  **Seconded:** David Ingram, Far Western Metro DC  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 95.58%  Against:4.42%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| 8.6 **Amend Appendix B items 1-18**  **Proposer – Lower North Coast DC**  That the RSL NSW Constitution, Appendix B - Membership be amended by:  1. Removing clauses 1 through to 6 (Application for membership) and referring those clauses to the DPC for consideration in SOP 2 - Membership.  2. Moving clauses 7 and 8 so that they are under the heading ‘Discretionary criteria’;  3. Moving the section ‘Membership Eligibility’ so that it is the first section of the Appendix and appears ahead of the section ‘Discretionary criteria**’** and ‘Membership Fees and renewal’; and  4. Renumbering all clauses of the Appendix accordingly.  **Moved:** Brian Willey,Lower North Coast DC  These clauses were included in the Constitution when it was written, however this information belongs in the SOP and not in the Constitution.  **Seconded:** Robert Waller, Old Bar Beach sub-Branch  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 93.92%  Against:6.08%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| 8.7 **Amend Appendix B item 13 (a) – (c)**  **Proposer – Huskisson**  *That Appendix B item 13 of the RSL NSW Constitution be amended by:*  *1. deleting the current wording of item 13 (a) and replacing it with ‘Any person who is or was a member of the Australian Defence Force with at least one day's service should be admitted as a Service Member’;*  *2. Deleting item 13 (b); and*  *3. Deleting item 13 (c).*  **Moved:** Helen Walker,Huskisson sub-Branch  Veteran was considered someone who had served a day, but with online applications no checks were done with regards to length of service. Had several ADF members keen to join on ANZAC Day, but system didn’t allow for them to be captured as they had served less than 12 weeks. Members moved to bases after recruit training and there was no way of contacting them then.  **Seconded:** Stuart Christmas, Berry sub-Branch  Should be encouraging ADF members to become RSL members on joining the ADF to demonstrate and to emphasise the benefits of becoming a sub-Branch member. The ADF member and potential RSL member may not be active immediately but would have already engaged and have a sense of belonging.  **Speaker against the motion:**  There was no speaker against the motion.  **Speaker for the motion**:  There was no speaker for the motion.  **Results:**  For: 80.90%  Against:19.10%  **Motion Carried and Resolution passed** |
| **Announcement of 2023 Election Results**  RJ announced the results provided by Link Marketing Services.  Total of 1544 valid votes were received for the Presidents ballot with 49 postal votes.  Total of 1566 valid votes were received for the Directors ballot with 48 postal votes.  New directors were: Paul James, Charles New and Sarah Watson  President – Mick Bainbridge  Returning directors were: Phillip Chin, Jason Hazell, David McCann and Louise Sullivan.  RJ invited Mick Bainbridge (MB) to say a few words.  MB thanked the members for their support noting that several issues had been identified and that he would address them. He mentioned that he expected that the RSL would have to address the recommendations made by the Royal Commission. He believed Governance was important to ensure compliance and that the volunteers were safe. He committed to attending functions were possible or ensuring that a representative attended in his staid. He thanked RJ, the outgoing Board members, JB and NH.  RJ announced that the following directors would be retiring:  Steve Graham, John Hutcheson and Phillip Bridie and a certificate of service was presented to Steve Graham.  RJ thanked the outgoing CEO, Jon Black (JB) for his service to country and to the League and wished him well. JB was presented with an RSLNSW Certificate of Appreciation.  JB said a final word of thanks to the Board for their support and their trust in him. He congratulated MB and the new directors.  SR thanked RJ for his dedicated service to the members and the League. RJ was presented a framed RAN Ensign that was retired from service at the Cenotaph in Martin Place and a shield acknowledging his time as RSL NSW President.  RJ thanked everyone for their support; staff, Directors, Auxiliaries and volunteers and welcomed Giles Hurst the new CEO and the new Directors.  RJ reminded the new Directors, that they should stay true to the mission and charitable purpose uniting in the best outcome for the members. |

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| **Close** |
| RJ advised that the draft minutes would be available on the website by 8 November 2023.  RJ thanked Jaimie Abbott for her role as MC.  The meeting was declared closed at 3:07PM. |

**Confirmed**

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| Chair | Date |