



**Australian Rogaining Association Inc.**  
**2019 Annual General Meeting**  
Tidal Waters Resort, St Helens  
8 November 2019  
**Minutes**

---

The meeting was opened by the President at 2:05pm.

**1. APOLOGIES AND NOTIFICATION OF PROXIES**

Apologies received: Nick Bowden, Kate Corner, Peter Trenaman, Ron Frederick, Trevor Gollan, Mike Dunbar, Mike Aylott  
Proxies advised: Evelyn Colwell is proxy for Kate Corner; Vic Sedunary is proxy for Ron Frederick

Executive: David Rowlands, Paul Guard

Delegates:

ACTRA: Julie Quinn, David Baldwin

NSWRA: Gill Fowler

NTRA: Jon Potter

QRA: Paul Guard, Sue Clarke

RT: Gary Carroll

SARA: Craig Colwell, Evelyn Colwell

VRA: Andrew Baker, Vic Sedunary (and Merv Trease)

WARA: Tony Scalzo

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Each delegate was invited to introduce themselves and to briefly describe the current status for their state/territory association, together with successful initiatives and key issues being addressed.

**Andrew Baker** (VRA President)

The main challenges for VRA are in finding volunteers for key skilled roles such as Catering Manager. There is no problem finding course setters, or event locations.

VRA organised 3 innovative approaches to 12 hour rogaines in the last 12 months:

- 12 hour on a smaller map using a two-pass 'odds and evens' system.
- 6 + 6 event with 6 hours in the day, then 2 hour break, then 6 hours at night
- 6 or 12 hour event using 2 separate maps of the same area, with the second map unseen until started.

The Suburban Adventure Racing (one hour score event) series has been running for several years, in conjunction with the scouts, introducing large numbers of juniors.

**Gill Fowler** (NSWRA Vice President)

The key issues for NSWRA are similar to last year: attracting novices and new volunteers. It is always a balance between the number of events and not burning out volunteers. This year, NSWRA put on an extra 'Surprise' event.

NSWRA still struggle to get viable numbers at the 24 hour rogaines. However, there was substantial attendance increase at the 24 hour event this year, with many novice teams from University of Technology Sydney (UTS). A 'Kids Rogaine' run on the Sunday morning of a 24 hour event attracted a good turnout.

NSWRA uses social media such as Facebook to grow the rogaining community and provide a forum for rogainers to find partners.

There are now post-event catch ups, which attract 15-25 people. NSWRA hold a volunteers BBQ in January to recognise and reward volunteers.

**Julie Quinn** (ACTRA Immediate Past President, Vice President IRF)

ACTRA have been working without a President this year, but have hopefully lined up a suitable candidate to take on the role next year.

There are the usual challenges with volunteers, but they can usually be convinced with a tap on the shoulder.

The close association with Australian National University (ANU) is a good source of recruitment for the association. ANU's "Inward Bound" is a unique event that has not been replicated in other states.

ACTRA was affected by the website hosting failure, with the pages still a bit disorderly.

There was a big debate about the membership system, whether annual or event based. Rogainers still become members when they do an event at the start of each year, and pay a membership fee.

An innovative event included a large-scale intricate path network area in a small subset of the map with a large number controls. Another innovation was a Saturday night event and then Sunday day event on the same map, with half price to enter a second time.

Biosecurity is a major risk for the future of the sport, it is being partly driven by Animal Health Australia issuing guidelines which make it difficult for rogaine organisers to comply. Julie and Richard Robinson asked for a meeting with Animal Health, but were refused.

**Gary Carroll** (RTas President, formerly WARA)

Rogaining Tasmania is travelling well, with record attendances at events. In a typical year there is 1 bush event and 2 metro events. The focus of events is in the Hobart area. Would like to see more events in the north of the state, but this depends upon the location of key volunteers.

Volunteer recruitment has been OK, but the pool is limited.

RTas is a bit short on technical skills generally. Gary has been taking on the Event Coordinator duties for all events. Jeff Dunn has taken over the Navlight duties, but need more people trained up. Some people are doing multiple roles.

RTas have been using OCad for map production, which has produced good results. An excellent team has been assembled for the ARC. RTas have used their own entry system, not the QRA system.

Rogaining Tasmania outsource the event catering, which has relieved organisers to concentrate on event administration.

**Sue Clarke (QRA President)**

The QRA Committee is very stretched at the moment. The Raid organisation in Queensland is accessing a common pool of volunteers. Skype hosted Committee meetings are convenient, but may have reduced engagement levels.

Don't have setters lined up yet for next year: lots of helpers, but no organisers. It is possible some events planned may be cancelled.

QRA holds a training event every year close to Brisbane.

Volunteers who have contributed at least a full day to an event and have given up their opportunity to compete are offered a \$50 credit towards entry at a future event. There is also a volunteers' barbeque.

Land access and biosecurity is becoming an increasing issue in Queensland.

Catering is outsourced to commercial provider or local community groups.

North Queensland is active with several events planned. They have a permanent course.

**Tony Scalzo (WARA Secretary)**

Peter Trenaman is the new WARA President. WARA have a full committee now with strong capability, after a transition of the last few years following a number of retirements.

Reinvigorating the volunteer resource pool has been an ongoing issue as the transition to the "last minute" culture takes over the regaining community. Exploring free event entry as a reward for volunteering. Also considering recognition for volunteers such as t-shirts.

Need equipment manager. Trying to recruit an equipment sub-committee.

WARA have successfully completed the transition to an updated Constitution to comply with the latest WA Incorporated Bodies Act.

WARA have implemented their own electronic punching system. Have completed the transition to electronic punching for all but the metro novelty Rogaines 3 year ago and now dealing with the second life-cycle issues of the technology.

WARA is updating its entry system based on the QRA templates.

Western Australia has challenges with land access, with no camping in water catchment areas, and impact of controlled burns.

**Evelyn Colwell (SARA Committee)**

SARA has a strong and active committee.

Initiatives and issues are much the same as last year. Smaller events are the most popular. A feature of South Australia is the long travel required to events.

There is no problem finding course setters. One committee member takes on Event Coordinator role for each event. SARA provide a catered "Volunteer Day".

SARA lost the relationship with the Asthma Foundation, which has led to fewer novices this year.

**Craig Colwell (SARA Technical Officer)**

SARA had some turnover on the committee, including a change of President.

There were 6 events organised this year. SARA have taken over the 4 hour "Velogaine" from orienteering.

The 15 hour roving option remains popular. There was one 24 hour event, which was not very well attended, despite being a good area.

Sally Caston organised a very innovative "Halloween" event, which required lots of effort, which was appreciated by those lucky to attend.

SARA is experiencing some land access issues, including for the Australasian Championship. Insurers have been advising landholders not to allow access. Key tasks such as map production and Navlight are organised by individuals. SARA have their own online entry system and distinctive website. Currently upgrading equipment with focus on the ARC in 2020.

**Jon Potter** (NTRA President)

NTRA is a small organisation which is run by a very small group of regular volunteers. Jon has been roped into the President role again, a role he has filled over 19 years.

NTRA ran 4 events this year: 2 city and 2 bush events. The 2019 12 hour at Litchfield was a success. There has not been a 24 hour event for 3 years. Typical events attract 25 teams.

NTRA are now able to source good map data from the government.

It can be difficult to run bush events due to the tropical weather and vegetation.

There is a new area on the Cox Peninsula near Darwin which could host up to a 24hr rogaine.

NTRA now have a new equipment trailer, purchased through a government grant.

An innovation is the “Out of control café” with eskies of food and beer at a checkpoint.

Ran a Christmas novelty event where partners were allocated randomly (novice with experienced person).

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 2018**

<p><b>MOTION:</b> That the minutes of the 2018 AGM be accepted as true and accurate.</p>
--

<p>Moved: Julie Quinn, Seconded: Gill Fowler. Motion passed.</p>
--

### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE / OTHER BUSINESS**

Gill Fowler asked for views on the safety of young children in a team. The current rule allows anyone under 14, if accompanied by an adult. NSWRA is proposing to make a rule that a child must be old enough to raise an alarm on their own.

The general feeling was to leave it to the discretion of the state associations and individual organisers.

Craig Colwell enquired about map preparation tools that are being used for rogaining. SARA is using OCad but there are licencing and cost issues. David Baldwin described the ACTRA process using Matthew Hollingsworth’s system. QGIS is being used in several states/territories. LiDAR data is increasingly available and provides excellent detail.

### **5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President’s Report was tabled. The President gave a brief summary of the year, in particular noting the wide variety of events that we are organising.

The President proposed a motion of thanks to Richard Robinson for his enormous contribution to the administration of rogaining. Richard was ARA Treasurer from 2003, then President 2008-2013, and IRF President from 2013-2018. The outstanding success of the World Rogaining Championship in 2016 was largely due to Richard’s dedication and attention to detail. Richard has now retired from the IRF Presidency and ARA Past-President roles, but remains an active competitor and is readily available to provide advice from his wealth of rogaining administration experience.

**MOTION:** That the ARA formally thank Richard Robinson for his enormous contribution to the administration of the sport of rogaining.  
Moved David Rowlands, Seconded Evelyn Colwell. Motion passed.

## **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **a) Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for 2018 was tabled.

Tony raised the question about insurance for volunteers. It was confirmed that there is no coverage for injuries to volunteers, only third party public liability.

**MOTION:** That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.  
Moved: Sue Clarke, Seconded: Gary Carroll. Motion passed.

### **b) Setting of Capitation Fee for 2020**

The Treasurer's report presented a proposal for the 2020 Capitation fees. In 2020, the capitation fee is proposed to remain at \$1 per member/participant, but that collection of the fee for 2020 would again be waived due to the ARA's healthy financial situation.

**MOTION:** That the capitation for the calendar year 2020 be set at \$1 per participant/member, but that the collection of the fee be waived.  
Moved: Craig Colwell, Seconded: David Baldwin. Motion passed.

### **c) National Liability Insurance**

As per the Treasurer's Report, the insurance continues to be very good value. The expected cost will be approximately \$2.80 per member for 2020. This will be invoiced in early 2020.

### **d) IDF Levy**

The Treasurer's Report recommended that the IDF levy not be collected for 2020, since the IRF is now in a good position to finance international development. The future of the IDF will be discussed at next year's AGM.

**MOTION:** That the IDF capitation fee for 2020 be set at \$0 per participant/member.  
Moved: David Baldwin, Seconded: Julie Quinn. Motion passed.

### **e) ARA Grant Policy and Status of 2019 Grants**

SARA made an application for grant funding for their new marquee. Grant applications close at the end of November and will be decided after that date.

### **f) Auditing of ARA Accounts**

No audit has yet been undertaken of the ARA accounts for the years 2014-2019. Mike has made progress this year in resolving issues and locating paperwork. Mike has confirmed that John Gavens is available and they have met to plan the process.

**ACTION Mike Aylott:** Progress the auditing with the ARA Auditor.

## 7. AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

### a) 2019 Australasian Championship: RTas

Gary Carroll spoke about RTas' preparations for the 40<sup>th</sup> Australian Championship. Surprisingly, there were few entrants from New Zealand, likely due to a clash with the NZ Championship 2 weeks later.

The ARA Executive gave permission for the 11am start to ensure rogainers make connecting flights on Sunday evening.

The map is large at scale 1:25,000. David Baldwin assisted with Teslin water proof paper printing advice. LiDAR was used to generate contours and vegetation, together with a lot of field work. A setback occurred when one landholder in the South West withdrew permission, leading to an isolated section of map and a ford next to the All Night Café.

Financially the event is looking quite sound with numbers about 20-30 over the break-even point. Campground capacity might be a bit limited.

### b) 2020 Australasian Championship: SARA

Craig Colwell outlined SARA's preparations for 2020. The ARC will be held on 9-10 May. Event coordinator: Craig Colwell, Course setters: Jenny Cassanova, Mark Corbett, Zara Soden and Steve Cooper. Location is a bush area north of Burra in the lower Flinders Ranges. Burra is a suitable base for accommodation, 70km from event. The map will be at an uncommon 1:50,000 scale. The contours are readable at this scale due to a lack of significant hills. The map will use waterproof Teslin paper. Every checkpoint site has been checked already. Efforts to entice more landowners are ongoing.

Will organise buses from Adelaide to site on the Friday afternoon, timed to arrive before dark. Competitors will need to fly in early to meet the bus. Marquees have been organised for interstate competitors.

The Hash House will be accessible by all vehicles. There is significant drought in the area at the moment. 2000 litres of water will be brought to site. The junior orienteering committee are booked for the catering.

The ARA AGM will be hosted at the Hash House site.

<b>ACTION ARA Exec:</b> Prepare a one page guide on important considerations for organising the Australasian Championship.
--

### c) 2021 Australasian Championship: VRA

Date: September 18-19

The event is likely to be held in the Pyrenees Ranges near Avoca. This is a new area, separate from Barkly's Hope which was the ARC in 2006. Course Setters are Vic Sedunary and Merv Trease, with Duncan Brooks assisting. Steven and Sarah Goyen are doing the vetting and mapping. The Event Coordinator is to be advised by VRA.

<b>ACTION VRA:</b> Advise the name of the ARC 2021 Coordinator as soon as practicable.
--

### d) 2022 Australian Championship: NSWRA

There were no details available from NSWRA for the 2022 ARC at this stage. The Australasian Championship in 2022 is due to be held in New Zealand. The ARA Executive will follow up with NZRA on hosting the Australasian Championship. The Czech WRC will also be held that year on the last weekend in August.

**ACTION ARA Exec:** Confirm with NZRA the date of the Australasian Rogaining Championship in New Zealand.

**e) Next Australasian Championships**

The following planned sequence of ARC hosts is listed below, however this can be varied given sufficient notice.

2023: WARA, 2024: ACTRA, 2025: QRA

NTRA is encouraged to nominate to host an ARC when resource availability allows.

The ARA would like to support the NTRA to host an ARC by sponsoring the involvement of experienced helpers from interstate.

**f) Trophies**

The ARA Secretary has made arrangements to deliver all the perpetual trophies to the 2019 ARC. The MU23 trophy requires the addition of a new tier. David Baldwin advised that gaps on the trophy are not necessary if a category is not awarded. The normal process is for plaques to be inscribed by the winners, with costs reimbursed by the ARA Treasurer.

A new Interstate Challenge trophy has been purchased, with all results back to 1990 checked and revised by David Baldwin.

**8. INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING**

**a) IRF Meeting in Catalonia on 26 July 2019**

ARA President David Rowlands and David Baldwin represented ARA, while Julie Quinn was present in her new role as IRF Vice President. The new IRF President is Matt Bixley from New Zealand.

Lauri Leppik from Estonia will be stepping down from coordinating duties for the European Championship (ERC), and IRF is seeking a new coordinator. There was no ERC in 2019.

An Estonian proposal to alternate the ERC between a 24 hour and a shorter duration has been suggested to attract a wider audience.

The IRF was adversely affected by the rogaining website hosting failure in August. David Baldwin and Julie Quinn are working on a project to upgrade the IRF website. USA has requested permission to make a local change to the name of the sport since the name “rogaining” is easily confused with a commercial product. The IRF was happy to accommodate a different name for branding purposes, except at the World and Regional Championships.

**b) WRC 2020 USA, WRC 2022 Czech Republic**

The WRC 2020 organisers from USA made a presentation at the IRF Meeting. The WRC will be part of a 10 day orienteering championship carnival. The terrain will be steep like the Pyrenees and the start is planned for the top of a gondola lift. The map has been completed using LiDAR contours and vegetation. A dry run of all administration systems was planned for the North American Championship in September 2019. The organisers will supply all competitors with SI Air for electronic punching.

ARA supported Ukraine’s bid for WRC 2022, but the European members supported Czech Republic, which won the vote 15 to 5. Problems at ERC 2018 in Ukraine may have influenced the vote. This will be the third time Czech Republic has hosted a WRC.

**c) WRC Frequency**

The IRF's policy of a 2-year frequency for WRCs commences from 2020. The IRF has flagged that there will be a future review. ARA will endeavour to ensure that the review is deferred until after the change has been trialled for a sufficient period to identify the impact and trends.

**d) IRF Capitation**

ARA currently pays around US \$200 per annum to the IRF. There is a small annual fee, plus a capitation charge on the Australasian Championship.

**e) IRF Technical Regulations**

There have been no recent developments within IRF to change the IRF Technical Regulations.

**f) ARA's International Development Fund (IDF)**

The IDF was discussed earlier in the meeting under Financial Matters. The IDF has an outstanding loan of US \$17,000 to the organisers of the 2020 WRC, which is due to be repaid no later than 30 June 2020. There will be no interest on the loan and the ARA will bear all currency risk and some exchange costs.

Vic Sedunary and Merv Trease are IRF Event Advisers for WRC 2020. Their trip to USA in 2019 was supported by IRF rather than IDF. To complete the task, they are likely to visit USA again in 2020. There is an opportunity for the IDF to sponsor this additional trip. Any such proposal will be considered by the IDF sub-committee.

<b>ACTION All:</b> Promote WRC 2020 in USA through our rogaining associations and networks.
---

**g) ARA Representation at the IRF Meeting, 31 July 2020, USA**

ARA President David Rowlands, David Baldwin and Julie Quinn are planning to attend WRC 2020 in USA.

**9. TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Convenor: David Baldwin**

**a) Review of Australian Rogaining Championship 2018 organised by QRA**

David Baldwin noted there were no major issues at the ARC. There was a protest regarding a hostile landowner that was upheld by the jury. It did have an impact on category placings. Fortunately only one team was affected.

The water plan was in place in advance and executed successfully, including an operations log. Two punches were put at each control for redundancy, which is recommended as a standard procedure for ARCs.

**b) Water Planning at ARCs**

Formal water plans have been prepared for the last three ARCs.

**c) Revision of ARA Rules and Technical Regulations**

The proposal for two changes to the Technical Regulations was tabled.

The main change is to ensure that points in the Interstate Challenge are earned by teams, unless only the 'host state' is represented in a category. Previously, no points were earned if only one state was represented.



The second change also allows New Zealand to be included in a rebranded “Interstate and Trans-Tasman Challenge”.

**MOTION:** That the ARA make two changes to the Rules and Technical Regulations relating to the Interstate Challenge calculation and scope.  
Moved: Paul Guard, Seconded: David Baldwin. Motion passed.

**d) Navlight and Wristbands**

ARA has purchased a stock of wristbands that are available for state associations to use. There was an obvious problem with the wristbands used at the WRC 2019 which lead to a number of failures. David Baldwin has ordered a sample of the indestructible cloth type of band for investigation and potential future use at Australian events.

Peter Squires continues to develop both software and hardware for Navlight. ARA intends to assume responsibility to ensure future support of the system.

**10. INTERVARSITY**

**Convenor:** Brad Vallette (ACT)

**a) 2019 Intersivity Championship**

The 2019 Intersivity was held in conjunction with the ACTRA Championships on 18/19 May near Merimbula, NSW. This was very successful due to the large number of Australian National University (ANU) teams. David Hogg, the organiser of the first Intersivity in 1969 was invited to present the prizes.

**b) UniSport Endorsement**

UniSport endorsement was not sought in 2019. The UniSport endorsement criteria has changed to require 100% student participation, which is not viable for rogaining.

**c) 2020 Intersivity and NAMSF Funding**

NAMSF will again be financially supporting one team from each state/territory. The 2020 Intersivity will be held in conjunction with the Australasian Championship in South Australia. Due to the May date, associations will need start early in the new year to promote and select teams.

**ACTION All:** Promote the 2020 Intersivity through our rogaining associations and networks.

**d) Appointment of Intersivity Convenor**

Brad Vallette has agreed to continue as Intersivity Convenor.

**11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**a) National Hosting and ARA Website**

The ARA is responsible for the domain rogain.asn.au and the hosting of a number of websites for ARA, IRF and several state associations.

The hosting site failed earlier this year and the ARA and IRF websites and a number of states were affected by loss of data. Fortunately, the ARA website was being updated by our developer at the time and was easily switched over.

The ARA will be moving to an alternative, more reliable host provider. David Baldwin advised that regular backups of the sites are now being routinely produced.

NSWRA advised they would like to participate again in future in the national hosting service when a suitable provider is implemented.

**b) Entry Systems**

QRA's entry system is available for other states/territories to adopt. Gill Fowler suggested that the technology should be hosted with neutral branding on the ARA website.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

Gill Fowler raised the issue of management of GPS devices at events, due to prevalence of GPS watches. There is widespread abuse of the rules around sealing devices in tamper-proof bags. Evelyn Colwell stated that the ban should be enforced. The threat of publicly shaming teams may be the most effective deterrent available.

**13. NEXT AGM**

The next AGM is planned to be held at 2pm, Friday 8 May 2020. This is prior to the Australasian Rogaining Championship, to be hosted by SARA in the Burra area.

The meeting was closed at 5:10pm.

## Tabled Documents

- President's Report - **2018-19 Presidents Report.pdf**
- Treasurer's Report - **2018 Treasurers Report.pdf**
- Minutes of 2018 AGM - **2018 ARA AGM Minutes.pdf**
- Proposed amendment to ARA Rules and Technical Regulations – **2019 ARA AGM Tech Regs Proposal.pdf**

## ARA Council as at 8/11/2019

**President:** David Rowlands  
**Secretary:** Paul Guard  
**Treasurer:** Michael Aylott  
**Immediate Past President:** Richard Robinson

Sue Clarke	QRA	President
Paul Guard	QRA	Representative
Jon Potter	NTRA	President
Mike Dunbar	NTRA	Representative
Julie Quinn	ACTRA	President
David Baldwin	ACTRA	Representative
Trevor Gollan	NSWRA	President
Gill Fowler	NSWRA	Representative
Peter Trenaman	WARA	President
Tony Scalzo	WARA	Representative
Gary Carroll	RT	President
Nick Bowden	RT	Representative
Andrew Baker	VRA	President
Ron Frederick	VRA	Representative
Kate Corner	SARA	President
Craig Colwell	SARA	Representative