

Annual General Meeting - Minutes

Meeting date **28 MARCH 2025**

Meeting time/location 11.30 am

Confidential

1. Financial Members Present

Mr AM Hardy (Chairman)
MC Arnold, TE Ashby, TRS Baker, KA Bennett, J Bishop, PJ Bradley, FA Brake, GR Brand, P Brown, RJ Butler, TSG Buxton, MB Camac, V Cappelletto, G Chambers, RP Coleman HMA, MLJ Cooper, AS Daniel, RCN Darling, KM Davies, TJ Donaldson, CM Downer, AR Duncan, JG Duncan AM, PJ Elkin, SJ Fahey, N Feeney, RW Fewster, HC Findlay, KH Follett, MD Fullgrave, MC Gale, JVE Gosse, NM Hallion, RR Hart, GP Hyde, CR Johnson, P Kerin, GA Klatt, JD Kuys, CL Liebich, AJ Lock, BJ Lush, JD Maidment, BF McFarlane AM, RJ McFarlane, EM McGee, A McGee, K McIntyre, SG Nicholls, G Pacitti, AS Pacitti, AM Piggott, KE Porter, AJ Potter, JC Radcliffe AM, FTSE, WM Rayner, DN Read, AL Robinson, JW Rothwell, SJ Ryan, B Schiller, MJD Scott ASM, OAM, DR Shannon, MP Siebert, CA Smith, KD Stables, L Thiele, SS Tunstill, AN Wadlow, AAT Walsh, CK Wandel, RJ Wright, FJ Young, and JF Ziesing OAM

2. In Attendance

R Battams, R Bowyer, AG Burgess, T Camac, O Croser, I Digby, LC Jenkins OAM, PL Laffer AM, D Pettman, IB Sanders, G Schulz OAM, WA Seppelt, GR White, S Bache, C Bayliss, K Butler, A Ford, J Hemingway, H Herbst, D Hill, V Hoey, K Lengs, M McKay, J Philp, E Reardon, T Rollond, L Silva, C Wilkinson, WM Rayner (Chief Executive), KH Freund (Executive Assistant) and P Gosnold (BDO)

3. Welcome

The Acknowledgement of Country was given.

The Chairman welcomed Members, Councillors, Honorary Councillors and staff present at the meeting and extended a special welcome to Mr Paul Gosnold from BDO Australia.

4. Apologies

Councillors

V Altmann, CA Bennett, MC Blenkiron, SA Bracegirdle, PO Button, BA Cay, WR Dabinett, LJ Day, MJ Doecke, FL Donald, CL Evans, R Evans, PT Fanning, G Follett, JS Hall, LH Hart, RF Haynes, AR Hentschke, DJ Hubbard, P Karytinis, SJ Kay, KJ Laurie, RL Liebelt, TW Linke, MD Llewellyn, BC Octoman, G Octoman, B Parker, GE Piggott, JW Richards, NL Ryan, JE Schutz, ED Scott, EK Shaw, TL Shone, PP Smith, K Sparks, LM Stapylton, CJ Thompson, HM Wells, A Weston, AC Wilson, DP Wilson, NS Wittwer, E Wood,

Honorary Councillors & Honorary Life Members

BTM Ashby, JS Ayers, BJ Beaumont, HJ Bone, AL Bone, TW Bowden OAM, GPC Day OAM, DW Fechner, RL Fiebigler, RG Fishlock, DW Freer, G Fuller, RJ Hedger, RJ Hunt, The Hon M Jackson-Nelson AC, CVO, MBE, TG James, RA Jenssen, JH Lloyd, IA McGowan, AJ Michael, J Middleton, AS Murray, DR Mutton JP, TM Ranford, LC Richens, MF

Robertson, WJ Rowett, PK Seppelt, MK Smart, RL Snewin Dip. Mkt;
FAICD, CJ Tindall RFD, LL.B., GL Trengove, RT Walsh AM and PE
Withers

Financial Members

P Angus, Dr BI Watson

5. Minutes

Minutes of the the Annual General Meeting held on 22 March 2024,
which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: MLJ Cooper

Seconded: JVE Gosse

6. Annual Report of the Society - including reports from Society officers, financial statements, and Auditor's Report for the year ending 31 December 2024

The Chairman presented a précis of the reports as published in the
2024 Annual Report:

"The past year's economic climate has presented challenges for many
but, in spite of these headwinds, the 2024 Royal Adelaide Show was
another stellar event. Even against the backdrop of cost-of-living
pressures, attendance and spend per head was up on 2023. This
reflects the great value that the Society provides Showgoers, with a
range of entertainment and free activities that meant people stayed
on site longer and got the most value from their ticket purchases.

Our Board views the 2024 Show as a strong event and the numbers
speak for themselves:

- Approximately 400,000 people poured through the gates
over the 9 days resulting in sweeping positive feedback from
exhibitors, competitors, volunteers and the public.
- We continue to have a solid number of competitive entries,
with more than 25,650 spread across 51 separate
competitive sections.
- These competitions were supported by 759 Officials, 110 of
whom came from interstate or overseas.

A highlight of our Show continues to be the exceptional growth in our
schools-based events. We are seeing growth across a range of
competitions including led goats, Merino wethers, and eggs.
Amongst this group, the Led Steer competition received the most
entries they have ever had with 255 participants, representing a
remarkable 18% growth on the prior year.

Beyond the excitement of the Royal Adelaide Show, the Showground
continues to operate strongly. Management has maintained its focus
on large format events that are better suited to the scale of our site,
utilising the various spaces our dynamic grounds can provide. A
perfect example of this was playing host to the world-renowned
Cirque du Soleil for the first time in 2024. Their sold-out string of
performances was held in their purpose-built space at what usually is
the Adelaide Showground Caravan Park for 10 months of the year.
Cirque du Soleil was a great success both critically and on an

operational level, showcasing the incredible versatility of the Showground as a venue.

A recent highlight was winning the rights to host Asia-Pacific's International Mining Exhibition (known as AIMEX), which was secured in partnership with Business Events Adelaide and the State Government. This is Australia's longest running mining show with a history of supporting the latest trends and developments in the industry. The first event will be held this year just after the Royal Adelaide Show, and then held every two years after that. This is a coup for the state as much as it is for the Showground. Staff should be congratulated on their efforts to add this event to the calendar as AIMEX will now call the Adelaide Showground home for the next 10 years.

This will no doubt be a catalyst to attract even more major events in the coming years.

Externally, a handful of events throughout the year found themselves navigating a particularly challenging landscape. Some of our larger event operators, particularly those which program music festivals were found to be scaling back their events, and in some cases cancelling them altogether due to a tough international and local touring environment across the industry.

Despite this, we have been successful in replacing the majority of these events across the year, and the event pipeline remains firm.

The senior leadership group is maintaining a strong focus on costs and value management, and this is ultimately helping to produce a solid bottom line.

At the time of writing this report, our new staff offices in the Goyder Mezzanine are nearing completion. The refurbishment of this space will be instrumental in bringing together staff from across numerous offices and creating an inviting and productive workspace for councillors and the board to meet and collaborate throughout the year.

This year we said farewell to board member Belinda Cay who we wholeheartedly thank for her dedication to the RA&HS Board and her ongoing commitment to the organisation as she retains her position on the Grains & Fodder committee.

We also welcomed Nicola Feeney and Andrew Duncan on the Board, who both have a long-term dedication and passion for the RA&HS and who will undoubtedly make a valuable contribution.

The Show Society Foundation continues its good work in supporting agriculture and horticulture through scholarship, bursaries and support of events such as (but not limited to) the SA Sheep Expo, Junior Heifer Expo, and SA Breeds All Dairy Youth Camp. These are

instrumental in aiding young people looking to pursue careers in agriculture and fortifying the future of the industry.

2024 was a solid year financially for the Society.

On a consolidated basis the Society continues to operate on a conservative basis with strong cash reserves, minimal debt, and strong support from our financiers.

The Society continues to be managed using sound financial strategies that reflect the low-risk appetite of the Board and its Members. This allows the Society to fulfill its Charter and maximise its contribution to the success and promotion of Primary Industries in South Australia through the staging of events and rewarding excellence.

Finally, on behalf of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society Board, I would like to thank our staff, sponsors, volunteers, committee members, exhibitors and media partners for their support in 2024.”

Moved: AM Hardy

Seconded: MP Siebert and carried.

7. Appointment of Patron

The Chairman informed the meeting that as the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC had accepted her appointment as Patron for the term of her office, it was not necessary to formally elect her as Patron at this meeting.

8. Election of Sectional Committees

The Chief Executive declared that as no qualifying nominations had been received for Council by 28 February 2025, all current Councillors had been re-elected for a further term to the next AGM in March 2026.

9. Resolutions

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, that the following be appointed ex-officio members of the Council for the ensuing 12 months.

- For the Agri Food & Commerce Committee
 - Ms Tori Dixon Whittle, representing Food SA
- For the Art, Craft, Cookery & Technology Committee
 - Mr Peter Brown, supporting Technology / F1 in Schools
- For the Beer & Cider Committee
 - Ms Vanessa Altman representing the Cider Industry
- For the Dairy Products Committee
 - Mrs Karen McIntyre, representing the Dairy Industry Association of SA
- For the Dog Committee
 - Mr Brian Parker, representing DogsSA
- For the Horticulture Committee
 - Mr Grant Piggott, representing Fruit Producers SA
 - Mr Mark Doecke, representing Citrus Australia – SA Region
 - Mr Vido Cappelletto, nominated by TAFE SA

- For the Wine Committee
 - Dr Tony Robinson, representing the Australian Wine Research Institute

Moved: AM Hardy
Seconded by: N Feeney

10. Appointment of Auditor for 2025 Accounts

Mr Michael Siebert thanked Mr Gosnold for conducting the Society's audit and moved that the firm of BDO Australia be appointed to conduct the audit of the Society's financial accounts for 2025.

Seconded: JVE Gosse and carried

11. Any other business

Nil

12. Meeting closed

The President thanked all members for attending and their support given to the Society and declared the meeting closed at 11.41 am.

CONFIRMED:

Chairman

DATE _____