

DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
Registration No. A0029615P

2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held 09/06/02 at the Coogee Randwick RSL, Sydney, NSW.

1. Opening

The President, Mr. Shane Cubis, opened the meeting at 1:30pm and welcomed all members present (12 members were present at the meeting).

2. Apologies

No apologies were received.

3. Minutes of the 2001 DAANZ AGM

Craig Sedgwick proposed that the minutes of the 2001 DAANZ AGM be accepted without amendment. Seconded by Brett Chatterton. The motion was carried.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2001 DAANZ AGM

No matters arising.

5. President's Report

First item is feedback on WDC2002. Despite some feedback from Larry Peery, I had fun, others have told me they had fun as well. It was well organized, well run, with no significant problems. So we can check that off our list as a job well done. (Applause from crowd).

Second – I have been talking with ‘Griff’ and Greg Evans about setting up an email wing within the DAANZ. It’s all very broad at this stage, but I will be trying to set that up during the year. It will have it’s own section, with it’s own scoring system. I’ll be reporting back as this progresses along. The idea would be to have people playing the email game on our DAANZ website, and then being brought into playing face-to-face.

Third – we should all be working on building up our local clubs. We are still trying to do that in Wollongong, and it is going as well in other parts of the country.

Fourth – the committees. We had a lot of committee’s (fourteen of them) – some of them have come to nothing, some have completed their work and have been let go of. There were some – like the Bismark Cup committee, the tournament directors/players guide committee, the DAANZ Rag (Ken’s now doing

that), the website, the WDC committee that went well. There were others that nothing really happened – people said they were going to do stuff and they didn't. We are now letting them go. Our thanks to the people who did something for the DAANZ. Shane Cubis - DAANZ President.

6. Finances / Secretary's Report

Craig Sedgwick, as Secretary presented the Financial Statement for 2001 and the budget for 2002. The AGM's are normally held in January. As you all hopefully know the decision was to hold off on having the AGM until now because WDC was our focus and we did not want this to stand in the way. The outcome of doing that is that because more than 14 months (I think it is) since the previous AGM we have to pay a fine to do this. I think it is costing us about \$20 to do it this way. Other than that there is no real impact. Our intention next year is to go back to having our AGM's in January. So what I did was to prepare the financial statements ending 31/12/01, so that it just stays on our normal calendar year. They were issued onto DAANZ Announce in January I believe – shortly after I finished preparing them. So anyone that was interested should have been able to have a look. They will be tabled again with the minutes of this meeting, and they will be included with the minutes, which we send off to the Victorian authority.

The financial situation at the beginning of this year is that we had cash on hand of \$2200 roughly. And we were expecting to have an income of around a \$1000 this year, and to have total outgoings of around \$2665 this year. Leaving cash on hand of about \$530. Most of that cash going out, obviously, was to fund WDC. WDC was not overly conservatively budgeted for, which is just as well as WDC was well attended, but it was not hugely attended. Basically we had outgoings in this year of \$1900, which was for the balance of the room. And \$360 for trophies. And to date, so far this year, we have had total incomings of \$1870 and total outgoings of \$2340. So, I would say that at the end of year, we look like coming up with a balance somewhere around \$2000. If you guys would like to have a think about how we could spend some of that money – being an association we are not supposed to have huge balances. We are supposed to run fairly conservatively – I guess spend about as much as we get. We are not-for-profit organization. So if you can come up with creative, imaginative or even sensible ways to spend it, please put them forward at some stage.

So that's the report from the financial side of things. As far as the report from the Secretary's side of things – I would like to add – with a little more heat – Shane's too nice a guy some times – this committee set-up that we attempted to do – was on the request of a number of very vocal people in the hobby. Some of which are no longer here – some of which probably are. And the basic feeling was that the executive would go ahead and make decisions and would not consult with the hobby. And there were a lot of people out there who they wanted to get involved and do stuff. From the maybe three years that this has been running, what has been shown is that of the 50 people, say, who say they will do something, there's probably about 20 people who'll actually put up their hands and actually commit to doing something. And of those 20 there's about somewhere between six and ten who'll actually DO something. That's well and truly been bourn out by what's here. Some of these things that have been ticked off – there's a few key people who actually over-lapped a little bit. So I think we are actually looking at about six to ten people who have actually done something. Personally, what I'll be pushing as far as these executive goes, is that the executive makes the decisions. That there is some consultation with the hobby, when it is practical, and we will take what the hobby says on board. We represent the hobby. We implement what is in the best interests of the hobby. But we can't have our hands tied. And our hands have been tied while this has been running, because we haven't been able to do stuff. We could have made decisions and put stuff in place – but we've had committees that have not done

anything that we are supposed to be waiting on results from. So I'll be suggesting that the executive, who will be automatically appointed today, will operate with a bit more of a free reign. And if the time comes when you guys think the executive has done something wrong – it will be up to the members for them to be organizing for them to be voted out at the next AGM, or organizing a special meeting if things are going wrong and you need to get rid of someone. Otherwise I think that you will just have to live with the people that you have elected.

Andrew Goff proposed that the report be accepted and this was seconded by Sean Colman. The motion was carried.

7. Election of Officers

President – Shane Cubis – nominated by Greg Evans and seconded by Brett Chatterton

Secretary – Craig Sedgwick – nominated by Brett Chatterton and seconded by Greg Evans

Returning Officer – Sean Colman – nominated by Craig Sedgwick and seconded by Geoff Kerr

Public Officer – Tristan Lee – nominated by Shane Cubis and seconded by Robert Stephenson

All officers were elected un-opposed.

8. Agenda Item – there were no agenda items

9. General Business:

(a) Andrew Goff proposed and Brett Chatterton seconded a motion to thank the outgoing executive members. The motion was carried.

(b) Christian Moura suggested that it would be worthwhile setting up a demonstration tournament to try out different scoring systems. Shane Cubis responded that there had been a scoring system committee established to too at the many scoring systems (and variations) that have been used by us over the years. Rob Stephenson added that a list of scoring systems selected by the committee is available on the DAANZ website. Craig Sedgwick added that there is nothing stopping anybody running a tournament and using any system they want. To ensure the tournament is eligible for Bismark Cup and Masterpoint affiliation organizers are encouraged to use one of the systems from this list. Otherwise it is at the discretion of the executive to decide whether a proposed tournament will be affiliated when using a different scoring system. The executive does not discourage organizers from trying new things – there is value in that – I personally think that there is value in people being able to attend tournaments and having a fair idea of what to expect from them. And if you are going to try out a new scoring system please give people a chance to check it out in advance. Don't just turn up on the day and say, "this is the scoring system we have decided to use". Rob Stephenson added that the executive have requested previously that organizers advise of the scoring system they are planning to use a least three months prior to the event. Further discussion followed, just clarifying the situation outlined above. It was pointed out that over the last ten years many scoring systems have in fact been tried. Some have been adopted, others not. This point was made for some of the newer players coming through

who are not aware of this and (as happens with this circular sort of issue) think that the wheel is yet to be invented.

(c) Andrew Goff raised the issue of the results not be fully available for the Waikato 2001 tournament. Andrew stated that the results of the tournament have now been officially lost by the organizers, meaning we can never get the centre charts for this tournament – breaking a ten-year run. Now I would like advisement from the DAANZ on what we should do. A precedent, which is the Maroubra tournament in 1995, which was only one board large, was counted for Bismark cup points, but it has not been counted for Masterpoints. Now, I'm not sure what steps we actually want to take about this, and I don't have any strong opinion either way, but I am looking for a solution to this. There followed five minutes discussion about what exactly is missing and what the expected impact will be. In summary, it is the year-by-year supply centre charts that are missing. The results of all the games are known, so Bismark Cup points can be awarded. Masterpoints could be awarded for some people, but the major impact will be on novices, as it must be established when they were eliminated from a game (if they were eliminated) to accurately allocate points. The discussion continued with input from more than six members, proposing various solutions and compromises. In general the feeling was that if possible we should do whatever we can so that no one suffers as a result – that is that no person misses out on any accumulated Masterpoints due.

After MUCH discussion it was decided we should take a vote of the members present to give the executive an indication of how the people would like solve problem. The two choices were to only settle for exact results (where the centre charts could be retrieved or accurately re-produced) or 'explore other options' (where less than perfect results might be accepted. The vote was five votes for exact results and five votes for 'other options', and two abstained. Thanks for the definitive vote boys!!!! The executive will now discuss this after the AGM.

(d) Craig Sedgwick advised that after a suggestion from David Norman a copy of the minutes from this AGM will be posted on the DAANZ website. Also any future AGM, SGM, and Executive meeting's minutes will also be posted.

(e) Craig Sedgwick spoke for the executive, advising that even though we have had mixed results from the committees we are still seeking and will happily accept assistance from anyone interested in helping out or bettering the hobby in some way. On this point Brett Chatterton (as an example) would like to become more involved in communicating with past players prior to tournaments. The idea being to inform and encourage players who have maybe been out of the scene for a little while or a long while to return.

10. Close of Meeting

As there was no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 2:30pm.