



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
MINUTES FOR THE 505TH MEETING OF THE
VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL
HELD AT VICTORIAN ROVER CENTER
WEDNESDAY, 25TH OCTOBER 2023, AT 7:30PM

1	Welcome	
1.1	Flag Break	Zac Geddes
1.2	Attendance & Apologies Apologies – Jody Freeman, Katie Condon, Drew Lazenby, Scotty Harrison	Jessica Kaplan
1.3	Acknowledgement of Country Rover Scouts Victoria acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which this event takes place. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.	
1.4	Conflict of Interest – - NRC: Zac is now NRC Training officer until the conference in January	

2	Congratulations, Guest Speakers, Presentations and Formal Thanks	
2.1	Good on Ya Mate – Council acknowledges and thanks the exceptional contributions to Roving over the past month. - Rover Dinner team did an excellent job, really good dinner and time management - Department of Education for donating whiteboard markers to VRC	
2.2	Guest Speakers & Presentations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laurence Williams from Scouting Around (and Carlton Rover Unit) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely world's oldest Scouting radio station - Weekly show - Completely Rover-run team - Youth members sharing stories, expressing themselves, and improving podcasting skills - Invitation to collaborate with VRC to run a workshop for venturers and rovers on podcasting and radio - Looking for volunteers to help over the summer holidays – single day workshop (probably at Radio Monash) - Would like assistance from teams to help them find content for the show - Info: linktr.ee/scoutingaround - Contact: scoutingaround.scouts@gmail.com 2. Helen from the Bogong Rover Chalet (and RA at JGR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Started skiing into the chalet in the 80s - Also an artist - Has painted an image of the Chalet, making it come to life in her vision 	

- Donating it to the Rovers to hang at VRC, encouraging people to attend

3. Pete Wotherspoon

Dear Victorian Rovers,

Saturday night's Rover Dinner was the celebration of the past year's activities and award presentation for the Rover Section. My congratulations again to all awardees.

I am writing to thank the members of the Section who spoke so kindly about me during the night, and to the support shown by Rovers, Advisors and others present. To say that I was overwhelmed with the sentiments expressed is an understatement! Could I also say a big thanks for the photo presentations, thank you boards, and for the gifts which were presented to me. I truly appreciate all that was done for me on the night and wish to thank those involved.

My wife, Jen, was very appreciative of the comments made in regard to her support, and for the flowers and gift.

Thank you all and thanks to Mt Dandenong Region for organising a great night.

All the very best for Rovers for the future.

3 Items for Consent	
3.1 Minutes of the previous VRC Meeting — September	Zac Geddes
Motioned: Zac Seconded: Plenty Valley Accepted	
3.2 Correspondence	Jessica Kaplan
3.3 VRC Financial Report	Jody Freeman
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No YTD numbers included in the agenda. VRC operating costs for the quarter are minor, a few IT related expenses. Will update VRC position in a subsequent month once we have processed all expenses for Rover Dinner. 2. VRC Treasurer's Annual report as presented to Rover Dinner 21/10 is included as an attachment (see Appendix A). 	
3.4 Decisions of the VRC Chair to be ratified	Zac Geddes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nicola Dangerfield to be ratified as Membership Development Officer for VRC Seconded: Bays Passed 2. Jess Hay to be ratified as Strategic Plan Officer for VRC (Noting the term will end on the 15th of June, the day prior to her 26th birthday) Seconded: Mt Dandenong Passed 3. Kieren Martin as Finance Officer for VRC (Noting the term is until 30th June, and the two (2) year term will begin again from the next election) Seconded: Melbourne Passed 4. Michael Watts as Chairman for MARB Seconded: Bays Passed 	

5. Catherine Kopec as Chairman for the Bogong Committee Management Group (Noting the term will end on the 19th of June, the day prior to her 26th birthday, at which time another Rover will be prepared to step in as acting chairman, and Catherine will assist as a general committee member)
 - Seconded: Melbourne
 - Passed
6. Paul Taylor (WF Waters Lodge RA) will act as a caretaker for WF Waters Lodge until a Rover can take over as Chairman
 - Unable to find a Rover to be a Chair
 - Past Chair declined caretaker role
 - Paul to be caretaking chair so that the lodge can continue to function until a Rover Chair can be found
 - Seconded: Southwest
 - Passed
7. Allowing Bogong to increase their ticket prices, although the budget has not yet passed
 - Costs of fuel, bus, wood, food gone up significantly
 - Roughly a 10% increase from last season
 - Action: not to have to table it for a month (so that advertising can start early to increase awareness to Rovers and Venturers)
 - Second: Plenty Valley
 - Passed

3.5 Notifications for the Baden-Powell Scout Award

Regions

4 Office Bearers Reports

4.1 Chair

Zac Geddes

It's been a full-on month for me this month.

My biggest highlight Was U-Day, it was fantastic to see a god dozen rovers come and develop themselves from many topics from managing finances, how to use our IT systems, and good marketing for your teams. A huge thank you to Jesse Carter, Nike Pike, Sienna Brown, Stephen, Regi, Sarah, for all the help leading up to and helping run this fantastic day.

I was able to attend the national program conference in NSW early this month. This provided a good opportunity to connect with Scouts from across the country and discuss all things program. Whilst outcomes are still being sorted through, it also provided a good opportunity to connect with Rovers from across the country who were also able to attend. The most interesting topics from my perspective was around the development of character courses, prioritising terrain enhancements, and a big think tank about solving all the issues as it relates to the program. When outcomes are shared with me, and a more detailed report, I'll share some more information out.

Another highlight was being able to attend Victorian Venturer Council (VVC) this month. It was a good way for me to engage with the leaders of the Venturer section and discuss some good topics, but also get some more insight in to how they operate. We have some great opportunities for our next membership development officer to pursue here.

Lastly, a congratulations to those who were presented awards at Rover Dinner over the weekend, but equally as important, a huge congratulations to Mt Dandenong for executing a good event. Bays has some big shoes to fill, but I'm assured they are up for the challenge. I would like to thank all those that supported the event, including Jesse Carter, who has continually showed her passion for Rovers. She did a heck of a lot of background work leading up to the event.

Email at:

chairman@vicrovers.com.au

4.2 Deputy Chair

VACANT

Email at:

deputy.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.3 Assistant Chair

Aodren Knight, Cam Cerda

Aodren:

With October ending we see the tail end of AGM season; I had the opportunity to attend both Baw Baw and MARB to run their elections and meet their new committees, in addition to attending the Mafeking and Surfmoort meetings.

MARB proved to be a very popular AGM to attend. I would like to again thank Breanne and the outgoing committee for a great and successful event, and I would also like to congratulate the new committee led by Michael Watts. With a strong vision for MARB, and a very impressive team backing him, I very eagerly look forward to working with the new committee and seeing the results of their work.

I was also fortunate enough to attend the W F Waters lodge AGM; my congratulations to the outgoing committee on a spectacular year, and Sam for his service as Chair. While a new chair was unfortunately not elected, the lodge is in secure hands with Paul, and the team are already well into planning for the next season. I encourage anyone interested in stepping into the broader Rovering world to speak to them or myself and see if there is a role that could be a good fit. It is a fantastically supportive committee and a great place to start.

Mafeking and Surfmoort have also had very productive months, with Surfmoort opening ticket sales this month and Mafeking working tirelessly on the park. The committees continue to impress.

Cam:

At RSM it was fantastic to hear how well their Grand Final Weekend event ran, and how smoothly their planning for their already upcoming event for Cup Day is coming along already. I was also invited to join Bogong's AGM and elections, so thank you again to their outgoing team and congratulations to Catherine, Bogong's new chair. Rover Dinner also just happened! From what I hear it was an amazing event, so congratulations again to the Mt. Dandenong team and to all that were celebrated.

Email at:

assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.4 Membership Development

Nicola Dangerfield

Nothing to report

Email at: membership.development@vicrovers.com.au	
4.5 Program	VACANT
Email at: program@vicrovers.com.au	
4.6 Strategic Plan	Jess Hay
Looking over the strategic plan and making notes	
Email at: strategicplan@vicrovers.com.au	
4.7 Training	Cairo Levitt
Rover training support team met this month for the first time in a while Restructuring the Unit management and personal development courses Making them into two courses that follow on from each other	
Email at: training@vicrovers.com.au	
4.8 BPSA	Breanne Simmons
Finally wrote up document detailing how to propose badgework Request for document about how to run a BM When those are done it will be uploaded to the website for all to utilise	
Email at: bpsa@vicrovers.com.au	
4.9 NRC	Izaak Kitching
Northern Territory are running a moot from the 27 th -2 nd July 2024, they are wanting at least 300 participants to come up. The NRC have updated Rover advisor expectations and can be viewed at https://rovers.scouts.com.au/2022/07/27/rover-advisers/ . Apple Isle moot (AIM) gave their final report and will be provided to future national moots.	
Nominations to join the NRC team are open and will close on the 18 th November 2023, the position descriptions can be found at https://rovers.scouts.com.au/roving/nrc-elections-2024/ and the link for nominations is https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=lztBHeQlbUGXR2VnBRpdDrMPcOhEyJxDntrA_Lk4XGhUQk4xRzUyOUo0TUVNM0ZJUVEWYxNFVKTC4u	
Nominations for to attend the 2024 NRC conference as an observer is still open and will be voted on next month. Attached in the minutes will be the position description and the link to the nomination form is https://forms.gle/Qd6qwWC1h9TXxpTe9 .	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date: 19-21 January 2024 (Arrival on afternoon/evening 18 January) - Location: Baden-Powell Park Training and Activity Centre, Brisbane, QLD 	

- Observer nomination link:

<https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au/login.asp?IEID=894&EIFID=EIF200RC1S4LKC4AUWTPGVNPG506334730G9AJXE38QIJWTSII8D3JTE2R8>

Email at:

nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au

4.10 Finance

Kieren Martin

When you are going to put your budgets on the table, please send to the finance team at least a week before.

Email at:

finance@vicrovers.com.au

4.11 Secretary

Jessica Kaplan

If you have a general business item to present, please ensure you send through a short summary to me. Unfortunately there was a mishap where I seemed to not get a few reports that were sent, so I will investigate and fixed.

Email at:

secretary@vicrovers.com.au

4.12 Resources

Callan Brouwer

The surprise storms sprung on us this month have made it difficult to visit, so it took me a few weeks to vacuum the whole centre. You wouldn't know it without seeing the photos though as it has soiled again. I need help for the time being to clean up after your big meetings until I arrange professional cleaners.

Email at:

resources@vicrovers.com.au

4.15 Marketing & Communications

Sienna Brown

This month has been fairly productive; U-day promotion and presentation were the main focus alongside Rover Dinner promotion. We have also been sharing content from sub-committees such as Surfmoor tickets and Mafeking working bees. If you need help with socials and promotion for a particular event, please don't hesitate to contact me or just give me some notice if you want something shared on socials! Over the next month, we will be revamping our socials, especially with the cancellation of the email newsletter. We are currently working towards designing a digital calendar template to utilise - monthly, tri-monthly? Also, we are working towards updating story icons and post templates and plan to work alongside IT to update some Unit info on the Vic Rovers website. I am also putting together a Social Media survey to understand how units are utilising social media for their unit publicly, externally and internally. I now have a communication and social media presentation that I'm more than happy to present at your regions to help your region teams and rover units utilise internal and external communication. Please speak to me after the meeting if this is something you might want me to run for your region.

Email at:

communications@vicrovers.com.au

4.16 Visual Communications

Maddy McArthur

No report submitted.

Email at:

visual.communications@vicrovers.com.au.

4.17 IT

Alex Costin

Reminder that the zoom accounts are still active, and bookings are available.

You can contact the IT Team at it@vicrovers.com.au, and the online store team at store@vicrovers.com.au.

Please reach out if there is anything we can assist with.

4.18 Assistant State Commissioner

Regi has resigned ☹️

Effective at the end of November, 6 months earlier than expected role end

Due to a lot of stress with many Scouting roles

Has really enjoyed and been honoured to be a part of the careers of many Rovers

4.19 Commissioner Group

Regi Caesar, Sarah Austin, Stephen Carter

Rover Advisor Conference

Our next conference will be a night time one here at VRC on the 24th of November (Friday) This is the link to register, please share it with your

RA: <https://www.vicscouts.asn.au/scoutEvents/default.php?ID=SCE01967>

Rover Dinner

Congratulations to Ben and his team for a fabulous Rover Dinner. It was so good to see Pete, Jen and Sue recognised and of course to celebrate our WF Awardees; Mark, Rachael and Maddy.

Baden Powell Lodge Service Award

Has your Unit done service this year? Do you fit the criteria to apply for the BP Service Award?

The Baden Powell Service Award runs from November to November and if you would like to apply for this award your unit needs to fill in the application with all of the service activities that you have done over 12 months.

Please nominate people even if they don't technically meet every singly requirement — put your case forward and they will still be considered.

The details are on the Vic Rovers website <https://www.vicrovers.com.au/awards/bp-lodge-award-for-crew-service>

Emails:

Regi: regi.caesar@vicrovers.com.au

Sarah: sarah.austin@vicrovers.com.au

Stephen: stephen.carter@vicrovers.com.au

5 Sub-Committee Reporting

5.1 Mafeking Rover Park

Caitlin Durant

Huge thank you to everyone that had made it to a working bee the past few months. Douglas, PL of Operations, has been putting in a huge effort to get the park cleaned up. All around the sheds have been cleaned up, the tires near the abseiling tower have gone and the fire pit pile has moved to behind the activities shed and been neatened up. Thanks to Mudbash for completing their capital works project of putting in some PA cabling. Thanks to James, ALP of Operations for starting to work on the drainage

around the park. Reminder that the working bees are on the 3rd weekend of every month except December & January.

At the November working bee, we will also be doing Mafeking Masters. Please let us know if you are interested in coming via the Facebook event as it will be catered. We will do a bit of work in the morning and then have a round of our 9-hole golf course and mini golf in the afternoon. It's going to be a great weekend so make sure you are there.

The Mafeking Christmas party is happening again this year at The Red Eye bar in St Kilda, where it was last year. It will either be the 22nd or 23rd of December, we are just confirming with the venue. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for that event.

We have also decided we will be doing New Years at Mafeking as well. This will be open to anyone in Scouting who is over 18 yrs old. It will be \$5 per night to cover camping and you bring your own food and drinks. If you are not helping at Wrench It you will need to be off site on the 2nd of January (but please do register to stay and help!). Again, more details coming soon via our Facebook page.

We will also have tube and tunes at the Feb working bee where we will float on lake Surfmoor for the afternoon and listen to some music. Again, keep an eye on the Facebook page.

5.2 Surfmoor

Kira Miles

Tickets are on sale!!!

Please advertise in your regions

Link to google form for 18 year olds to fill out, and then they will be emailed a code for a discounted ticket.

Releasing service tickets in the next week or two for any registered members of Scouting over 26 (still calculating how many hours service)

Tender applications close on the 13th of November

Keep an eye out for spam sections in Facebook groups — Surfmoor posts may well be in there

People will soon be updated on the gate duty roster

5.3 Mudbash

Sienna Brown

We had a pretty quiet meeting last month with a sudden last-minute change of location. This brought some great discussions around activities and entertainment, however, and we want to start asking rovers what they want to see as Mudbash 2024! We also voted on a logo and slogan which we are finalising the approval of so hopefully should be publicly announced this week! We have also found two treasurers and a secretary with some of us attending U-Day last week. The main focus of this month is the budget and working out new options based on our participant feedback from this year's event so discussions around the PA system and inclusive shower and toilet options were discussed. We are aiming to have a budget presented next meeting so look forward to that.

5.4 Rover Scout Motorsport (RSM)

Matt Caldwell

Just had Round 2

Very successful: great turnout, good feedback

Round 3 week after Cup weekend

Motorsport side of Mudbash is also being planned

5.5 Bogong Rover Chalet

Catherine Kopec

This month we had our AGM, a big thank you to all that attended and thank you to Cam for running our elections. I would like to welcome the following Rovers who are new to the BCMG in 2023: Eli Solly, Ben Landells, Sarah Platt and Max Walton Briggs. We also farewelled Sahara Hollaway, Kendra Schmid and Emily Kinross-Smith; thank you for your service.

We have our first working bee for the season over the Cup weekend. From this working bee forward, we've adopted policy to get participants to book via Trybookings and pay a flat \$20 contribution for food up front to help to minimise time spent chasing people up, encourage people to stay as long as possible at working bees and reduce last minute withdrawals with no communication.

This summer we are going into season 5 of the bathroom works and as such this is going to impact our usual summer working bee schedule greatly as we will be restricted to low numbers due to the toilet and sewerage constraints. This work will start right after Venture in early January.

We have also set out our proposed prices for next year. We have included it at this meeting so that we can advertise as necessary to venturers at VG. Our proposed prices have increased by approximately 10% since 2023.

5.6 W.F. Waters Lodge

Paul Taylor

In the words of the Beetles: HELP

I need somebodies

(Help) not just anybodies

(Help) you know I need someone, help

The WF Waters ski lodge is owned by Victorian Rovers and is maintained by an amazing team of people, however over the last few years we have seen a considerable change in the dynamics of the management committee and the general members of the Crew. Under the new VIC Rovers direction we do not currently conform to the required structure as we are not 'Rover' run "aged" support, we are solely made up of over 26 year olds.

This is unfortunate and we need to transform the crew and transition efficiently. We need the urgent assistance from VRC and also regions to support the continued management of the lodge and with that we need to fulfill a number of positions on the Crew.

We need the following positions filled:

Chairperson

Admin officer

A promotions team (min 2 would be good)

And a number of general crew members to allow for growth and connection to future generations of scouts

5.7 MARB

Michael Watts

Thank you to all those who attended the MARB AGM. I am very excited to be the Chair of such a great event and look forward to working with my team. I thank the outgoing 2023 team for all their hard work and I welcome the 2024 MARB committee. Work has already begun to bring an exciting MARB in 2024. Region chairs, please look out for a feedback survey which will be sent out

5.8 Yearbook

Leftover yearbooks from Rover Dinner are in the library.

5.9 Rover Dinner

Mt Dandenong

Thank you to everyone who attended, especially those to those from outside Mt Dandenong
Night ran quite well, despite some challenges
Started late, but still finished on time (early!)
Will be having a mini ARAP – handover to Bays and in-depth review

6 Region Reporting

6.1 Bays

Anthony Lamb

Earlier this month Split Rock Rover unit organised and ran a Rover Info night for the venturers in their district which ran very well with great turnout of venturers. Not only did they promote themselves and their program, but also the other units within the region as well as everything else Roving has to offer. We also had a number of Rovers on the Admin and Activity teams for Boost, which put on a great weekend for over 1200 youth, not just Rovers but all sections. So thank you to those who helped, and I also hope the Rovers that participated had a great time and got some OAS progressions. It was good to see a number of our Rovers attend Rover dinner and show their support for Rachael on her W.F. Waters Award and the amazing Drew on his Commissioners award. Mt Dandenong and their Rover Dinner team did an amazing job, and we're looking forward to doing an even better job next year!

6.2 Gippsland

Zoe Cooper

For Gippsland this month we have faced more than our fair share of chaos, from Bushfires threatening the homes of half the region, floods threatening the others, and 2 earthquakes creating the Trifecta of Mother Nature's wrath. However, with all of that Gippsland has still been busy, we have been working hard on CARB, working on our Christmas Party, attending U-Day and Rover Dinner where I was honoured to be presented with the Chairman's Award, had many members in Strez Showtime and even a few attending Jota/Jotis. We have a paper tabled for discussion tonight, and I have been working with Zac on his. Despite not having an RA, I am so proud of how Gippsland has been working over the last few months and, despite the looming fire season, I am confident that we will continue to achieve great things.

6.3 Lerderderg

Katelynn Condon

It has been a productive month for Lerderderg, with many of our rovers attending Cuboree as rovers and leaders. It's great to see rover representation.

We are coming closer to the end of the year and preparing for our region break up. We are in the midst of planning a Lerderderg Region Break Up camp. The first region camp in a few years. It's a lot of work for our team, but we can see it will be rewarding!

We look forward to seeing our numbers increase again as the school year finishes and we see more Venturers link up to rovers. We look forward to another great month for Lerdy.

Thank you to Mt Dandy for running a fantastic Rover Dinner and congratulations to Maddy Packer on her award!

6.4 Melbourne

Harrison Feldman

This month in Melbourne has been about planning future events. As an exec team we sat down and tried to figure out the best dates to run big region events. We've so far landed on the following:

- Region breakup and trivia night on December 13.
- Region casino night late Feb.
- Rover Activity Meet (R.A.M (venturer try out night)) Feb 8.

Our other big-ticket item is us coming close to our final design for the new Melbourne logo. This will be ready for voting on at MRRC next week.

6.5 Mt Dandenong

Benjamin Ceravolo

This month I have been fairly busy. In addition to organising Rover Dinner I have attended Bogong's ARAP and U-day, as well as visiting South West and Gippsland's meetings to talk about Rover Dinner. In our region this month, one of our districts ran a district-to-venturer night for the first time since Covid; there were approximately 50 Venturers and 30 Rovers.

Thank you again to everyone who attended Rover dinner.

6.6 Murray Midlands

Ben Okely

Only moved into this role 2 days ago, so don't fully have an overview of what's happening in the region yet.

Shepparton doesn't really have rovers, but Echuca is doing well

6.7 Plenty Valley

Nicola Dangerfield

Plenty Valley is making some good progress on our goals this month. With increased numbers at our monthly meeting, and good progress on our goals, we are working well. My executive is working on Spookmoot, a small region camp over the last weekend in October which is going well.

Not much else to report at the moment, I'm working on retention at meetings and better understanding the regions and individual units needs, so we're hoping for smooth sailing for the rest of the year.

6.8 South West

Matthew Pannan

South West has been full steam ahead with events throughout October. Our end-of-year breakup camp is well underway, with site bookings and activity planning being confirmed this week. We had a couple of our exec members attend U-Day and take home some great bits of info from the sessions. On the same weekend, Eumeralla had its centennial celebration, and it was awesome to see Rovers from both Geelong and West Coast regions assisting the committee and running their own activities!

Last weekend the Rovers in Horsham helmed the Western Vic JOTA/JOTI camp – the first one run as a camp since 2019. As usual, Rover Dinner also fell on this weekend, and it was spectacular. Thanks to Ben and Mt Dandenong for a memorable night out, it was very well worth my 8-hour round trip.

Going forward, we finally have our region Crown Night next weekend, finally returning in its post-pandemic glory. It'll be awesome to have the region get together for a fun and fancy night in the city. Early in November, I and the other Rovers from Horsham will also be driving up into Murray Midlands to give the Mildura units a hand in running the 46th Mallee Rover Activity Camp, aka Mud Kamp.

7 Other Reports

7.1 MPAC Report (Pete's Corner)

- Been overseas for the last couple of months and can now devote time
- Has some Ideas on how to proceed
- Will be tabling a paper next month
- Need to go to Plan B regarding finance plans

8 Interstate, National and International Events and Contingents

8.1 Gilweroo 2023

Elmore Events Centre
17th–19th November 2023

<https://www.gilweroo.com.au/>

Gilweroo team are looking for help from Rovers for a range of important jobs (including activities, security, traffic control, etc.) and will compensate Rover Units for each Rover who helps, making it an ideal fundraising activity for units.

8.2 Noodl'oot 2023

KumBaYah Guide Camp, Wollongong, NSW
24th – 26th November 2023
Australia's first noodle themed Rover moot!

Early bird registrations (open until Oct 31):

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfnl9NRd3Mdc9t9CP4I5SsQ3vRTuDzgeUKo827Rv8Je3Jrpcg/viewform>

There will be a Victorian Contingent going (and transporting people)

8.3 VG (Victoria Gathering) 2023

Mafeking Rover Park
1st – 3rd December 2023

<https://vicgathering.asn.au/>

8.4 Venture24

Main camp: 7th–13th January 2024

Expeditions: starting between the 31st December 2023 and 2nd January 2024

Lardner Park, Gippsland (and expeditions offsite)

Still looking for lots of leaders

Will take Rovers 21+ for line leaders, and any Rovers for other roles

<https://www.venture24.au/>

8.5	Easter Moot	
	Tasmania 29 th March – 1 st April 2024 https://www.tas.rovers.com.au/events	
8.5	Governor General's Camp	
	Government House, Canberra 14 th – 19 th April 2024 https://scouts.com.au/event/ggcamp2023/	
8.6	7th Roverway 2024	
	Norway 22 July – 1 August 2024 https://scouts.com.au/event/roverway2024/ \$2500 for participants + flights etc (for Rovers 22 and younger) \$2000 for IST + flights etc November 21 st applications open	
8.7	AJ2025	
	Maryborough, Queensland 6 – 15 January 2025 Will need a Queensland Blue Card (their version of the WWC)	
8.8	17th World Scout Moot 2025	
	Portugal 25 July – 3 August 2025 https://scouts.com.au/event/wsm2025/ Age cut off: be 25 at the start	
8.9	26th World Scout Jamboree 2027	
	Poland 30 July — 8 August 2027 https://www.jamboree2027.org/	

9 Voting Items

9.1

10 Items for the Information of the Victorian Rover Council

10.1 Requirements for Child Safety and WHS Modules for All Adults in Scouting

Please periodically remind the Rovers in your Regions, Subcommittees and Units that these modules may have expired without their knowledge, and that they need to re-complete them when this occurs.

WWC: 88.89%

11 Tabled Items
11.1 VRC Financial Report
See Appendix A
11.2 Self-Catering on Events
Discussion paper on self-catering during events. Formal discussion happening next month See Appendix B
11.3 Policy Book Amendments
Paper tabled with all points in one. Consultation can happen to split proposals as needed. Will be voted on next month, take to regions See Appendix C

12 Standing Items
12.1 Unit Names and Scarves Regions
Sunbury Rover Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changed from Wurundjeri Rover Unit because they lost the signed documents with the rights to use the name - Moved: Plenty Valley - Seconded: Mt Dandenong - Passed
12.2 Workplace Health & Safety Items
Seek online access or do not attend meetings if you are sick. If anything in or of the Rover Centre isn't working as it should, please email resources@vicrovers.com.au immediately with a brief report. Remember to wash your hands often with soap and water. Thanks Drew for fixing a table.
12.3 WWCC/e-Learning Reminders
Details of members with outstanding membership requirements are sent to Unit Leaders and Region Teams every month. Please ensure these are actioned in a timely manner. If you'd like an ad-hoc report please contact Jeff.
12.4 Operoo
Any event you run should be registered with Operoo. Contact the State Operoo team @ Operoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au to inform them of your event, they will help you with the process around that. Please make sure your profiles are up-to-date, especially with going to events.
12.5 ScOUT & ABOUT
Register your event through the link here. Anything from Working Bees to weekend camps. https://myrecord.scoutsvictoria.com.au/memberportal/scouting-activity/vic
12.6 Terrain
If you would like snapshots of your region's data please email Harrison.Feldman@scoutsvictoria.com.au (but be patient, there are technical difficulties)

12.7 Active Rover Policy

Cam is working on making a sheet to sign with the requirements

You can find a summary sheet and optional approval form for this policy at

<https://www.vicrovers.com.au/resources/policies>

13 General Business**13.1 Nomination form for observers at NRC.**

NRC observer election will take place in November, not October as dates are still being confirmed

Nothing (not dates, not location) has been confirmed, but once things are confirmed Zac will communicate with nominees.

This form is used to manage nominations to be observers at the NRC conference.

It will be in person in January. It is likely to be the evening if the 11th until the afternoon of the 14th.

Once all details are confirmed, nominees will be reached out to in order to confirm the nomination.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckRd4ZAtTtSVmKCYoRQTByNWnLuPGTIk7N7zw483sHNvSROQ/viewform>

13.2 Venture24

Venture24 is looking for 70 more Line Leaders, they are open to flexible working days.

- \$250.
- Core camp dates (excluding expeditions): 8–12 January, 2024
- Lardner Park

13.3 JOTA/JOTI National Coordinator

Scouts Australia are after a Rover to be the JOTA/JOTI (Jamboree of the Air/Jamboree on the Internet) National Coordinator.

Applications close on the 31st of October

Scouts Aus post with all info including position description and application link:

<https://scouts.com.au/blog/2023/09/28/jota-joti-national-coordinator/>

13.4 Report: Apple Isle Moot

See Appendix D

13.5 Applications: Assistant State Commissioners — Rovers

Applications for Assistant State Commissioners for Rovers open now and close on Sunday.

Email Stephen with applications.

Closing Parade: Flag Down

Meeting Closed at 09:34 pm

**VRC MINUTES
APPENDIX
OCTOBER MEETING
25.10.23**

Title	Page	Agenda Item	Description
VRC Attendance October.....	2	1.2	Welcome
VRC Financial Report.....	5	11.1	Tabled Item
Self-Catering on Events.....	11	11.2	Tabled Item
Policy Book Amendments.....	13	11.3	Tabled Item
Apple Isle Moot Report.....	16	13.4	General Business

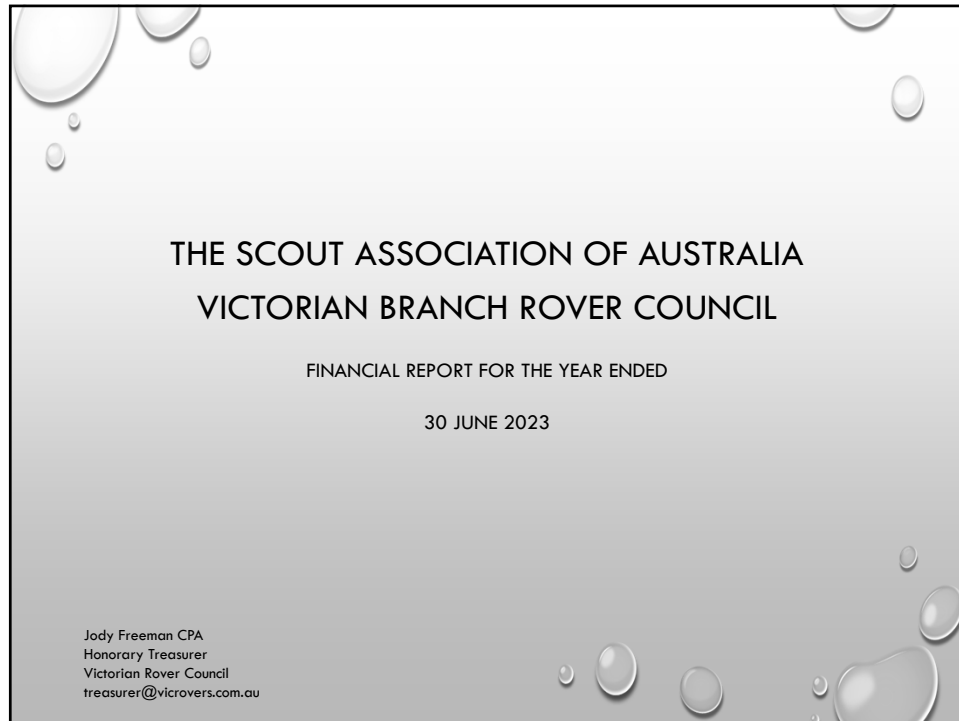


VRC ATTENDANCE
505TH MEETING OF THE VRC
HELD AT THE VICTORIAN ROVER CENTER
WEDNESDAY, 25TH OCTOBER 2023, AT 7:30PM


Committee	Role	Name	Present (✓)	Apology (X)
Office Bearers	Chair	Zac Geddes	✓	
	Deputy Chair	-		
	Assistant Chair	Cam Cerda	✓	
		Aodren Knight	✓	
	Membership Development	Nicola Dangerfield	✓	
	Program	-		
	Training	Cairo Levitt		
	BPSA	Breanne Simmons	✓	
	NRC Delegate	Izaak Kitching	✓	
	Secretary	Jessica Kaplan	✓	
	Resources	Callan Brouwer	✓	
	Strategic Planning	Jess Hay	✓	
	Marketing & Communications	Sienna Brown	✓	
	Visual Communications	Maddy McArthur		
	IT	Alex Costin	✓	
	Finance	Kieren Martin	✓	
	SC Rover Support	Stephen Carter	✓	
ASC Rover Support	Regi Caesar	✓		
	Sarah Austin	✓		
	Honorary Treasurer	Jody Freeman		X
Bays	Chair	Anthony Lamb	✓	

Committee	Role	Name	Present (✓)	Apology (X)
	Deputy Chair	Lizzie Honeybone		
	Region RC	Drew Lazenby		X
Gippsland	Chair	Zoe Cooper	✓	
	Deputy Chair	Carlin Graham	✓	
	Secretary	Meg McGregor	✓	
	VRC Rep	Thomas Sibley	✓	
Lerderberg	Chair	Katie Condon		X
	Deputy Chair	Tess Williamson	✓	
	VRC Rep	Jacob Hobbs	✓	
	VRC Rep	Eleyne Ferguson		
	Region RC	Scotty Harrison		X
Melbourne	Chair	Harrison Feldman	✓	
	Deputy Chair	Thomas Whitehead	✓	
	VRC Rep	-		
	Region RC	Greg Davies	✓	
Mt Dandenong	Chair	Ben Ceravolo	✓	
	Deputy Chair	Brittany Oakley		
	Development Officer	Mitchell Bell		
	Region RC	Maria Armstrong		
Murray Midlands	Chair	Elijah Alley		
	Deputy Chair	EJ Clayton		
	VRC Rep	Ben Okely	✓	
	Region RC	Mark "Barney" Thornton	✓	
Plenty Valley	Chair	Nicola Dangerfield	✓	
	VRC Rep	Cam Cerda	✓	
	Treasurer	Christian Miller Grinzi		

Committee	Role	Name	Present (✓)	Apology (X)
	Region RC	Jeff McIlvain	✓	
South West	Chair	Matthew Pannan	✓	
	Deputy Chair	David Pattinson		
	Secretary	Ethan Grey	✓	
	Region RC	Craig Miller (Asst.)		
Mafeking	Chair	Caitlin Durant	✓	
Surfmoot	Chair	Kira Miles	✓	
Mudbash	Chair	Sienna Brown	✓	
RSM	Assistant Chair	Matt Caldwell	✓	
	Rover Advisor	Lachlan McDonald	✓	
Bogong	Chair	Catherine Kopec	✓	
W.F. Waters	Caretaker	Paul Taylor	✓	
MARB	Chair	Michael Watts	✓	
Rover Dinner	Chair	Mt Dandenong	✓	
Guests	MPAC	Peter Wotherspoon	✓	
	Scouting Around	Laurence Williams	✓	
	Bogong Rover Chalet	Helen Brauns	✓	



1



**CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

INCOME		
Member activities received	630,196	457,945
Less in advance	(108,703)	(71,546)
	<u>521,493</u>	<u>386,399</u>
Sundry Income	43,636	20,000
Interest	13,810	2,671
TOTAL INCOME	<u>578,939</u>	<u>409,070</u>
EXPENSES		
Operating Expenses	(432,138)	(369,262)
Depreciation	(35,483)	(31,328)
TOTAL EXPENSES INCLUDING DEPRECIATION	<u>(467,621)</u>	<u>(400,590)</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	<u>111,318</u>	<u>8,480</u>
VRC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	1,215,786	1,207,306
VRC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	<u>1,327,104</u>	<u>1,215,786</u>

2

TURNOVER BY ENTITY



	Turnover \$	
	For year Ended 30-Jun-23	For year Ended 30-Jun-22
Victorian Rover Council	19,055	26,433
Bogong Rover Chalet	134,633	37,589
WF Waters Rover Lodge	137,069	115,133
Mafeking Rover Park	48,513	50,250
Rover Scout MARB	10,562	14,255
Victorian Contingent Moot	34,400	1,217
Rover Scout Motorsport	15,950	34,285
Rover Scout Mudbash	71,059	79,189
Rover Scout Surfmoot	50,252	48,048
	\$521,493	\$406,399

The Consolidated Victorian Rover Council has reported a turnover of \$521,493 for the year ended 30 June 2023 (2022 \$406,399), and a net surplus of \$111,318 versus the previous years surplus of \$8,480.

Turnover was up 28% as we returned to mostly normal operations, and included strong improvement at Bogong and the Aim Moot contingent.

Revenue for ski lodges is for the 2022 white season.

3

CONSOLIDATED RESULT



- Mafeking reported a deficit for the year, and MARB was breakeven. All other events and assets returned a surplus for the year, with strong results for our snow assets.
- Our activity committees comprising MARB, Mudbash, Surfmoot, Vic Contingent, Rover Scout Motorsport contributed a combined surplus of \$21,203.
- VRC itself reported a surplus of \$15,720, which included income from Rover levy, and interest and lower expenses over the year including a waived NRC levy.
- Mafeking reported a deficit of \$3,711 after depreciation, WF Waters Lodge a surplus of \$41,272 and Bogong Rover Chalet a surplus of \$36,836. These figures are inclusive of insurance proceeds and sale proceeds for a tractor combined total of \$43.6k.
- The aggregate surplus is net of \$35k of depreciation and includes \$42k in insurance charges paid to Scouts Victoria.

Consolidated	\$
Revenue	578,939
Expense excl Insurance & Depreciation	(389,781)
Gross surplus / (deficit)	189,158
Insurance expense	(42,357)
Depreciation expense	(35,483)
Net result	111,318

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THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2023		
	2023 \$	2022 \$
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	1,327,104	1,215,786
VRC CONSOLIDATED EQUITY	<u>1,327,104</u>	<u>1,215,786</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank or Investment	728,002	634,041
Debtors	63,693	37,192
Prepayments	64,277	45,177
Advances Other	29,598	29,598
Victorian Branch Grants Held	10,000	10,000
	<u>895,570</u>	<u>756,008</u>
Property Plant & Equipment Assets		
Land at Cost	185,000	185,000
Buildings	862,015	857,898
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(560,011)</u>	<u>(539,035)</u>
	302,004	318,863
Plant & Equipment	331,842	312,308
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(222,898)</u>	<u>(225,041)</u>
	108,944	87,267
Total Property Plant & Equipment Assets	<u>595,948</u>	<u>591,130</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,491,518</u>	<u>1,347,138</u>
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	55,711	59,806
Amounts received in advance	108,703	71,546
	<u>164,414</u>	<u>131,352</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>1,327,104</u>	<u>1,215,786</u>



**Rover
Scouts**

5

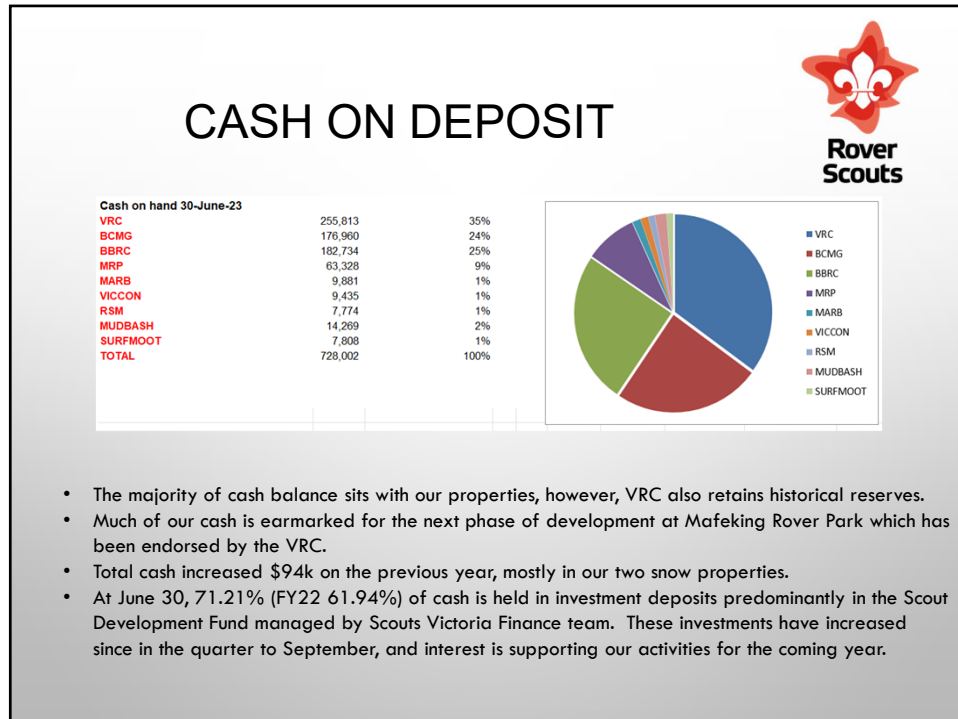
NET ASSETS BY ENTITY		
	Net Assets (\$ at cost)	
	As at 30-Jun-23	As at 30-Jun-22
	Victorian Rover Council	246,636
Bogong Rover Chalet	336,085	299,249
WF Waters Rover Lodge	212,236	170,964
Mafeking Rover Park	409,473	413,184
Rover Scout MARB	11,195	11,259
Victorian Contingent Moot	6,044	4,939
Rover Scout Motorsport	22,951	22,716
Rover Scout Mudbash	25,723	13,476
Rover Scout Surfmoor	56,761	49,082
	<u>\$1,327,104</u>	<u>\$1,215,786</u>



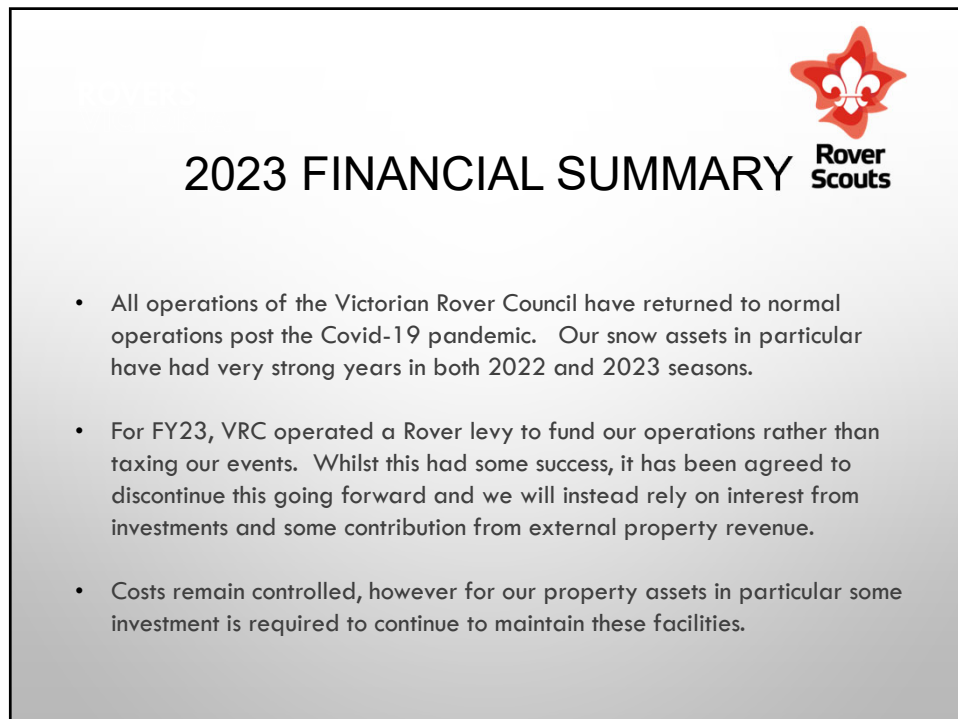
**Rover
Scouts**

As of 30 June 2023, net assets are \$1,327,104.

6



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8



2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY **Rover Scouts**

- For the VRC itself, costs in 2023 were constrained, the largest usual cost being levies to National Rover Council being waived for the year.
- Moving forward, the Scouts Victoria has agreed to meet this cost from membership revenue eliminating the purpose of the Rover Levy, and also reducing the need for VRC to tax our events. This in turn means a greater share of event revenue can be used for actual event and activity costs.
- Event costs continue to be a squeeze, it gets harder every year to provide high value events and meet operating costs, particularly in a high inflation environment. Rover Committees work hard to maintain a balance and keep our events appealing but within budget.

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2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY **Rover Scouts**

- Assets are largely performing well, Bogong and WF Waters lodge have both had good years, and this has given them some funds to invest in maintenance and improvements.
- Mafeking remains tight and needs to continue to attract major hire fees to keep the books balanced.
- The consolidated VRC remains in a sound position as we progress through financial year 2024.

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The Scout Association of Australia
Victorian Rover Council

2022/23 ACTUALS to BUDGET & 2023/24 Budget

1133 Rovers 2023 Census numbers
79 RA 73 RA per extranet, 3 State, 8 Region

	PRIOR YEARS		PREVIOUS YEAR			5.100%	PAX	Per Head	Comments
	2021 Actual 30-Jun-21 \$	2022 Actual 30-Jun-22 \$	12 Months to 30 JUNE 2023 Budget FY23 \$	Actual FY23 \$	Variance \$	2024 Budget 30-Jun-24 \$			
INCOME				Final					
Mudbash	-	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	No event appropriation for FY24	
Surfmoot	6,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	No event appropriation for FY24	
MARB	-	264	-	-	-	-	-	No event appropriation for FY24	
Rover Scout Motorsport	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	No event appropriation for FY24	
Baw Baw Rover Crew	-	4,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	-	This is a % allocation representing share of external to section revenue and a contribution to VRC.	
Bogong Rover Chalet Mgt Group	-	-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	-	This is a % allocation representing share of external to section revenue and a contribution to VRC.	
Mafeking Rover Park	-	800	1,000	-	(1,000)	1,000	-	This is a % allocation representing share of external to section revenue and a contribution to VRC.	
Rover Levy - Rovers	-	-	17,475	15,750	(1,725)	-	-	No rover levy for FY24	
Rover Levy - RA	-	-	1,260	1,260	-	-	-	No rover levy for FY24	
Sundry	393	1,213	-	-	-	-	-	Not budgeted, Christmas Party 2021	
Merchandise sales	357	466	-	45	45	-	-	Not budgeted, revenue FY23 year for rover shirts and STG badges	
Interest	896	1,090	1,200	6,640	5,440	10,700	-	Higher interest rates 5.10% at 7 June, currently \$224k in SDF deposit.	
	7,646	18,132	22,935	25,695	2,760	13,700	1,212	11.30	
EXPENDITURE									
Marketing & Promotion	55	204	500	103	397	2,000	1,212	1.65	Increased
Environment	-	616	-	-	-	-	1,212	-	Special project spend FY22
Training Subsidies & Courses	289	-	1,000	450	550	750	1,212	0.62	Includes RA Seminar costs, and add on training team cost.
Awards and Presentations	-	455	300	330	(30)	750	1,212	0.62	Most of cost in SC Budget, cost of VRC Tickets to Rover dinner 4x40, Special Gifts
NRC & NRYP Meeting	-	(150)	2,500	660	1,840	-	1,212	-	NRC cost paid by Branch
NRC Levy	-	9,136	6,853	(2,581)	9,434	-	1,133	-	NRC cost paid by Branch
NRC Moot Buddies	1,188	1,188	1,165	1,220	(55)	-	1,133	-	NRC cost paid by Branch
Victorian Moot Buddies	-	-	1,249	1,249	-	1,212	1,212	1.00	\$1 from Rover levy per head allocated to Moot buddies for the next National Moot.
Sundry Expenses - VRC General Operating costs	2,157	42	1,200	559	641	1,200	1,212	0.99	Expenses such as working bees, gifts, cake, cards etc.
Equipment Maintenance	255	438	1,000	1,344	(344)	1,000	1,212	0.83	VRC Trailer and other equipment, R&M Budget allocation required
Equipment - Minor Purchases	-	-	1,000	562	438	1,000	1,212	0.83	Planned VRC maintenance work
Equipment - Major Purchases	-	2,000	-	959	(959)	-	1,212	-	No operating budget - This is for larger investment
Equipment - IT	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,212	-	No operating budget - This is for larger investment
Postage, Stationery & Office Expenses	-	-	-	195	(195)	-	1,212	-	Postage for orders, offset by revenue so nil to budget
Communications & IT	813	731	1,000	668	332	1,000	1,212	0.83	SMS and IT Infrastructure operating costs, including tablets, square, domain renewals, minor asset replenishment
Accounting Fees	420	466	500	476	24	500	1,212	0.41	xero cost for VRC xero account. (includes MARB and Viccon)
Square Service Fees	-	-	-	201	(201)	-	1,212	-	FY23 related to square fees on Rover levy, not required or FY24.
Contingencies	-	-	500	-	500	500	1,212	0.41	Contingency for unforeseen expenses.
Year book	2,160	1,055	1,750	3,580	(1,830)	2,500	1,212	2.06	Year book printing costs, FY23 - 2.5k accrued plus overrun for FY22, required FY24
Merchandise Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Not budgeted
	7,337	16,181	20,517	9,974	10,543	12,412	1,212	10.24	
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) YTD	309	1,952	2,418	15,720	13,302	1,288	1,212	1.06	
Abnormal items off budget	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) YEAR TO DATE	309	1,952	2,418	15,720	13,302	1,288	1,212	1.06	
			10.54%			9.40%			

Notes to the VRC budget:

This is the operating budget for the VRC itself, and excludes all sub committee operations.
VRC revenue for FY24 is proposed to be covered by interest on cash investment, currently 5.10%, and a small contribution from Property Assets.
Expense are in line with previous years costs, with some adjustments as noted in the comments.
Based on most recent census, a per head Rover cost is included for revenue, expense and budgeted surplus.
This budget will hold for FY24. Key risk for future budget is movement in interest rates and cash reserves and inflation in operating expenses.
queries/comments to treasurer@vicrovers.com.au



SCOUTS VICTORIA
 Victorian Rover Council
 25.10.23

Item Title	Self-catering at Events	
	Information	
X	Discussion	
	Decision	
Document Author	Zoe Cooper – Gippsland Region Chairperson	
Strategic Alignment	Logistics: To increase accessibility of meetings and events with particular concern for financial and geographic limitations of some Rovers.	
Consultation	Region internal discussions, Conversation with the Region Chairs Team	
Implementation Period	Discussed at September meeting	

KEY POINTS

- The topic of dietaries and events has been spoken about informally for many years:

BACKGROUND

- Whilst most dietary requirements or food intolerances can be accommodated, occasionally there are some that are too complicated to work into an events menu.
- Members have been required to self-cater at their own expense whilst still being required to pay full price for an event ticket.
- At times where the committee has decided to discount the tickets due to catering, there has been no formal process to follow.
- Some members have indicated that they do not attend events due concerns around their dietary requirements.
- Self-catering is always a last resort, it is the expectation that the catering team try and accommodate as many dietary requirements as possible.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Victorian Rover Council:

- Require that any member who has been advised by the events caterers (or committee members) to self-cater, have the catering portion of their event ticket refunded.
- Events look into the idea of creating a non-catered ticket for events, either publicly available or through contact with the Event Organizers.
 - When tickets are released, the member purchases a ticket
 - After ticket is purchased, the member contacts the committee or catering team of the event to enquire about their dietary requirements.
 - Catering Team advise the member and the events committee if they can cater for the requirement or if the member is to self-cater.
 - Before the event: If self-cater, Committee issue a refund of the catering costs of the event and outline any foods the member cannot bring onto the premises (e.g. nuts)

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Lead	Zoe Cooper – Gippsland Region Chair
Assists	Carlin Graham – Gippsland Region Deputy Chair Meagan McGregor – Gippsland Region Secretary
Cost	Reimbursement of assigned catering cost
Risks	Impacted events will see a small impact in profit.
Milestones	Proposed in Octobers VRC meeting Taken back to regions and subcommittees for discussion Feedback provided before/at Novembers VRC meeting - If agreed: Voting paper proposed in Januarys VRC meeting.
Outcomes	Members who have difficult to accommodate dietary requirements are able to attend events with no additional financial burden.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS VICTORIA
Victorian Rover Council
25.10.23

**Rover
Scouts**
VICTORIA

Item Title	<i>VRC Policy Book Amendments</i>
Information	
Discussion	
X Decision	
Document Author	<i>Zoe Cooper - Gippsland Region Chairperson, Zac Geddes – VRC Chairman</i>
Strategic Alignment	<i>Governance - To review and address the structures of Victorian Rovers, to ensure the section remains relevant and up to date.</i>
Consultation	<i>Gippsland Region Rover Council Executive team, and Current Office Bearers</i>
Implementation Period	<i>To be discussed with Region teams, then decided upon at the next VRC meeting.</i>

KEY POINTS

- *The VRC Policy book has not been updated to reflect the new system, and other outdated terms:*

BACKGROUND

- *The VRC Policy book has not been updated to reflect the new system.*
- *The outdated policies have created confusion and added extra work for the VRC council and Region Chairs teams.*

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Victorian Rover Council:

Make the following amendments:

1. *Page 8, Baden Powell Scout Award, How the Award will be managed:*
 - *Current:*
"2. All Rover Units in Victoria shall use the National Squire Training and Unit Membership requirements. Although the Squire training component will be discontinued as the New Program components are progressively rolled out. Units may not add to, remove from, or otherwise amend these requirements."
 - *Requested Change:*
"2. All Rover Units in Victoria shall use the Intro to Scouting/Intro to Section for membership onboarding. Units shall be ensuring members complete their mandatory membership requirements from Scouts Victoria . Units may not add to, remove from, or otherwise amend these requirements."
2. *Page 8, Baden Powell Scout Award, How the Award will be managed:*
 - *Current:*
"5. The date that the Region notes the nomination for the Baden Powell Scout Award shall be deemed to be the date of completion of the award. The nomination must be received by a member of the Region Executive who is not a member of the Rover's own Unit before the Rover Scout's 26th birthday.

6. Region Rover Communities shall be notified of nominations for the BP Award at the gathering immediately following their receipt, and forward to the Branch Rover Council without delay."

- Requested Change:
Remove from the Policy Book as current program does not require Region input.

3. Page 8, Baden Powell Scout Award, How the Award will be managed:

- Request to add the following under this sub heading
 - "Region Rover Community shall notify the Victorian Rover Council when a BPSA has been completed"

4. Page 17, Training, Rover Training Team – Appointments:

- Current:
"Be willing to complete the PLA Course within 12 months of appointment."
- Requested Change:
Remove from the VRC Policy Book, PLA Course no longer exists.

Page 31-51

5. Current:
N/A

- Requested Change:
At the following statement at the bottom of the duty statements.

"Responsibilities of office bearers' positions that are vacant shall be assumed by the VRC executive"

6. Throughout Policy

- Current

The term of Chairman as a position.
- Change the names for these positions to Chairperson to provide gender neutral language. This should be altered in all mentioned of Chairman, including Deputy Chairman, Assistant Chairman, and including but not limited to Policy Book, Standing Orders, Vic Rovers Website, and more.

7. Event Roster

- Current

The Event Roster expired in 2021.
- Requested Change:

Approve the attached updated event roster.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Lead	Zac Geddes
Assists	Zoe Cooper, Jess Kaplan
Cost	There should be no financial costs to implement these changes

Risks	<i>No risks</i>
Milestones	<i>October: Proposed to VRC Region chairs take these changes back to their regions and discuss at region/unit meetings. November: feedback, Vote and Implement changes. In future, more updates and discussion will need to take place around many aspects.</i>
Outcomes	<i>Improved understanding of the VRC Policies, smoother elections, and nomination periods.</i>

AMENDMENTS

- N/A

Year	Rover Dinner	Gate Duty (Surfmoot & Mudbash)
2011	Lerderderg	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2012	Plenty Valley	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2013	Mt Dandenong	Mt Dandenong & Eastern
2014	Bays	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2015	Melbourne	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2016	Lerderderg	Mt Dandenong & Gippsland
2017	Plenty Valley	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2018	Mt Dandenong	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2019	Bays	Mt Dandenong & Gippsland
2020	Melbourne	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2021	Lerderderg	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2022	Plenty Valley	Mount Dandenong & Gippsland
2023	Mt Dandenong	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2024	Bays	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2025	Melbourne	Mount Dandenong & Gippsland
2026	Lerderderg	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2027	Plenty Valley	Lerderderg & Mount Dandenong & Murray Midlands
2028	Mt Dandenong	Plenty Valley & Bays
2029	Bays	Gippsland & Melbourne & South West
2030	Melbourne	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2031	Lerderderg	Mount Dandenong & Gippsland
2032	Plenty Valley	Bays & Melbourne & South West
2033	Mt Dandenong	Lerderderg & Plenty Valley & Murray Midlands
2034	Bays	Mount Dandenong & Gippsland



22nd Australian Rover Moot

Apple Isle Moot

31st December 2022-8th January 2023

Fulton Park Scout Campsite

Tasmania



Apple Isle Moot (or AIM for short) is a National Event being hosted by Rover Scouts Tasmania. We will be working with local companies and experts to provide the best experience for participants and staff. AIM will have a great focus on the outdoors and uniquely Tasmanian experiences, including our history, culture, food and drink, fauna, and flora. We also want to have a positive impact on the scouting and local community, aiming to be a waste-conscious event with a heavy focus on local talent and products. The Moot will consist of an expedition phase and onsite phase. For the expedition phase participants choose from a range of trips to other parts of Tasmania, that will centre around adventurous activities and cultural experiences, and include a service project. The onsite phase will be held at Fulton Park in Forth, and will have all participants in the same place, with the options of half-day trips exploring the local area and a wide range of adventurous onsite activities, as well as entertainment in the evenings.

AIM was held at the Fulton Park Scout camp in Forth, Tasmania. This location was chosen for multiple reasons. Firstly it was important to us to utilise a scout property if possible to benefit scouting as much as possible. Secondly, the park is close to the Spirit of Tasmania, making it easy for people to drive to the moot. There is already basic infrastructure on site and they had held large events prior to AIM.

A multitude of sites were suggested as potential locations in a brainstorming session at one of our initial state workshops. From here, members of the preliminary committee researched sites to develop an initial pros and cons list. This assisted us to rule out some sites, and determine specific locations to look further into. From here we used the site selection tool to further investigate these sites. Fulton Park was the ideal site for the moot due to the reasons above. Previous national major events in Tasmania had been held at Lake Barrington, Gowrie Park and Quercus Park. Gowrie Park has changed significantly since the first Tassie Moot and would not be able to hold the event this time around. Lake Barrington has very minimal infrastructure and is far away from all activities and any towns etc. Quercus park was strongly considered as a location, and there would only be 1 year of overlap for participant ages from AIM and Wild Dayz (2012 Venture held at Quercus Park). The ultimate reason for choosing Fulton over Quercus was the benefit to Tasmanian Scouting.

AIM was run from 31st December 2022 to 8th January 2023 with the closing ceremony on the night of the 7th. This shorter format was chosen in early 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Two workshops were held at the 2021 NRC



conference to determine how AIM could run in the face of a worldwide pandemic. It was agreed between all workshop attendees that a cheaper event would make it more accessible to Rovers, particularly as the 18 - 25 year old age group was severely financially impacted by the pandemic. The easiest way to decrease the cost of the event was to decrease the overall length.

It was also agreed by all workshop attendees that this change should happen at the cost of the on-site portion of the event, but that expeditions should remain full length as they are the biggest drawcard of the event. The main factor after this in deciding the exact structure of the event was that by shaving a day off each end of the moot our event would fit within one working week (Saturday to the following Sunday).

This meant our structure became 1 night on (NYE Party), 4 nights off-site on expeditions, and 3 nights back on-site.

We held a range of activities catering to a variety of different needs and abilities and also working with the individuals to ensure they had the experience of their lifetime. On top of our Branch Activities team, our activities team worked with the SDG's team as well as Caitlin Arcus from Western Australia as the BC youth Program WA, to ensure our range of activities was accessible and included aspects of the award scheme. We were able to offer many different training courses to participants and progressions in the award scheme. This was well received by participants and was an easy way to incorporate the youth program into the event.

All but 5 of our 19 expeditions were run by people under the age of 30 with some of those people still being active Rovers. By having younger expedition leaders it allowed our participants to have a better connection to them and overall allowed for a better experience. It also allowed the organisation to run smoothly as they had a better understanding of Rovers and there was a greater mutual respect between the Expedition leaders and Expedition Manager.

The biggest challenge was communication between the expedition manager and expedition leaders. We were able to identify some of the main reasons that impacted that greatly and these were the lack of respect for youth members in positions of leadership, constantly changing expedition leaders and overall busy lives. While of course the last one isn't able to be adjusted to much we found some ways to work around the other challenges. Some of the ways around this was having meetings with 2-3 expedition leaders at once instead of all together, while this is more work for the expedition manager it allowed more communication to happen in a more respectful manner. It is also vital to fill the positions as early as possible and ensure there is a well developed plan or an assistant expedition leader. Incorporating the Youth Program into the expeditions



was a great success and allowed people who participated to complete progressions. If there are ways to incorporate this in the future we would definitely encourage future moots to include this.

List of Expeditions:

- **Three hike and you're out**

Satisfy your hunger for the wilds as we explore Tasmania's pristine wilderness on this rugged expedition. Carrying everything with you, we will hike along our path and sleep under a blanket of stars each night. Three separate, equally stunning hikes ranging from a literal walk in a national park to a challenging off track navigational experience will cater to a variety of experience and fitness levels.

- **Rugged X**

Be prepared to immerse yourself in the ruggedness of Tasmania. Engage your adventurous side and come experience wild canyons, test your skills navigating your way through caves and traversing down steep cliffs, all while advancing your OAS Vertical skills. Return to home base each night to relax and recharge before heading off on another adventure tomorrow!

- **West coast Explorers**

Come and explore the wild west coast of Tassie. We'll be spending 5 days travelling through the Gondwanan rainforest by boat and rail, travelling through the heart of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area to some of the most remote parts of the state. Check out what Strahan and Queesntown have on offer, find out how the early settlers lived on Tassie's West Coast, catch a glimpse of a platypus at Lake St Clair, Abseil the Gordon Dam, and take in the the heart of the Central Highlands on the way home. Whilst on this journey we'll be sampling some of the great food Tassie has on offer, whilst getting out and about along the West Coast and Central Highlands.

- **Mountain Biking mischief**

Tasmania is on every mountain biker's bucket list, from the stunning views from Hobart's trails, the history around Wild Mersey and of course, the hero dirt and EWS fame of Blue Derby, Tassie's world class trails await!

Whether you're an enduro champ, lycra warrior or commuter cruiser, there is something for everyone as we provide coaching and training to improve your skills and confidence. We'll be steadily raising the challenge over the week, helping you tackle trails and obstacles you didn't think you could! So come along for some two wheeled fun!



- **Explore Nipaluna**

How many capital cities have the nation's oldest casino, a port, a mountain, and a gateway to Antarctica? The one and only Hobart invites you to explore the city secrets, the culture, and the sights.

The second oldest capital city in Australia, Hobart is proof that great things come in small packages. The historic city sits at the foothills of kunanyi/Mt Wellington where there's lots to discover both within Hobart and the surrounding area. From World Heritage convict sites to a bustling waterfront precinct; Hobart is dotted with galleries, distilleries, markets and restaurants. But don't be fooled by Hobart's quiet side, this unique city is home to one of the world's most confronting and exciting collections of modern art at MONA. Come join some ex-mainlanders who once called Tassie home as we explore not only Australia's most southern state capital, but the Huon Valley, the Tasman Peninsula, the Coal Valley and beyond. We'll be seeing all the classics of the South including Port Arthur, and MONA, as well as our fair share of eating and drinking from beer and cider to whiskey and wine.

- **Jack and Jill went up a hill**

Based at the world renowned Cradle Mountain National Park, you will spend the nights in The Scout Hut and the days exploring the area. Cradle Mountain is home to an abundance of wildlife and if you are lucky you might just get to see a Tasmanian Devil, Wombat, Platypus, Quolls and Echidnas. Explore the diverse landscapes of ancient rainforest, alpine moorlands, glacial lakes and maybe even snowy peaks, as well as the rich history of Cradle Mountain and surrounds. Over the 5 days you will have the opportunity to explore the area and discover the beauty of Tasmania's World heritage area.

- **Earn your Tiger Stripes**

Do you AIM to obtain your PADI Open Water Qualification (Valid world wide)? Starting from the shore or a boat, you'll dive into an exciting exploration of the waters surrounding the EagleHawk Neck area. Share your dive with the East Coast's friendly dolphins and seals, all while learning everything there is to know about SCUBA Diving.

- **Diving devils**

Do you hold a diving qualification and are excited to explore the best SCUBA diving in Southern Australia? Well this expedition is calling your name! You will dive the beautiful waters of eastern Tasmania, play with the resident dolphins, seals, sea dragons and a myriad of other animals. While not diving you will have the opportunity to explore the pristine beaches and national parks and assist with environmental research or simply enjoy the relaxed environment.



- **Tasting Tasmania**

Let the picturesque scenes of the various Tasmanian tasting regions be your backdrop as you taste your way around Tasmania. through 5 jam packed days touring the state tantalising your taste buds with good local food, wine, beer and spirits. From cheese to chocolate, fresh seafood to truffles, and berries to ice cream, there will never be a dull moment for your tastes buds.

- **Do go chasing waterfalls**

Branch out from the rivers and lakes that you're used to, and explore some of Tassie's best waterfalls. From the state's biggest single drop waterfall, Montezuma Falls, to the iconic Russell Falls, you'll trek through rainforests and National Parks. Every walk you take will reward you with a stunning view that your inner photographer will love. With the waterfalls, also comes some of Tasmania's idyllic towns for you to explore each day, this is not an expedition that you want to miss!

- **Ultimate southern taster**

If it's the tastes of the south-east that you want, we have the expedition for you! Explore southern Tasmania's wine and food offerings from the beautiful Coal River Valley, Tasman Peninsula, and Derwent region. Pair your wine with Hobart's art and culture scene, the unique distilleries, and the picturesque views. Let your taste buds lead the way, and embark on one the tastiest trips ever!

- **A hike a day keeps the doctor away**

Explore the sights of Northern Tasmanian from atop mountains and within gorges. Satisfy your inner adventurer by completing a hike a day while still getting a taste of Tassie's second biggest city. Spend each night sleeping at the foothills of Ben Lomond in our very own Rover hut. From national parks, to mountainous villages, to reserves and wetlands, everyday is a new adventure! Lace up your boots, pack a bag for the day, and get exploring!

- **Island off an island off an island**

If our island state, off our island nation, isn't quite the exploration you're after; Discover Tasmania's two most iconic Islands; Maria Island and Bruny Island! Embrace your inner Contiki explorer through the most unique island hopper you'll ever experience. Start your adventure on Maria Island; a place of scenic beauty with rich Australian History, environmental significance, and some great short walks with insane views. Explore the East Coast and the inners of Hobart on your way to Bruny Island; Southern Tasmania's home away from home. Your days on the island allow time to savour boutique food and drink, get amongst nature, and explore some amazing sea cliffs on the world famous Pennicott Wilderness Cruises.



- **Wild West Coast 4WD**

The West Coast of Tasmanian is an iconic 4wd playground and is one of the must do trips for 4wders Australia wide. We will be exploring remote and rugged Coastlines that have been battered by the roaring 40's for generations. Wild wind swept coastlines, remote and stunning and technically challenging 4wd tracks, countless kilometres of beach driving, sand dunes, steep descents, waterfalls and truly spectacular scenery is waiting expedition participants. This expedition is truly a once in a lifetime experience where you will be going to places most Tasmanians will never go.

- **Take the Sea-nic Route**

Starting from the convergence of three rivers, explore the Tamar valley region from the vantage point of the Tamar River. Gear up for a journey by sail in our unique patrol boats and cast away to experience five days on the water. Here's your chance to improve your sailing skills, no matter your experience; all while racing your fellow expedition mates down the river, singing sea shanties and admiring the wildlife along the way. Let the wind blow you on this thrilling adventure!

- **Northern explorations**

Northern Tasmania is begging you to explore it, from the inner city of Launceston to the beaches of the north east coast, and all the hidden treasures in between. Each day will be a new adventure with incredible views and experiences. Learn about the local history, meet the wildlife, dip your toes in the ocean, and have a blast!

- **Toot Toot!**

All Aboard! Join the Toot Toot expedition as we travel the length of Tasmania to visit the best railways the state has to offer, including Don River, Ida Bay and the West Coast Wilderness Railway. If you are looking to take in the sights and sounds of the beautiful Tasmanian landscape at a relaxed and leisurely pace, then this expedition is for you.

- **I like big boats and I can not lie**

Set sail on the high seas aboard the STV Windeward Bound and learn the ropes of sailing a tall ship. Spend your days taking in the views of Tasmania from the water and interacting with the passing marine life before spending your nights under a sea of stars.

- **Race the Van Deimen**

Do you want to explore Tasmania through adventures and challenges? Jump into this amazing race style expedition where exciting activities are awaiting you at every turn. Make your way from one end of the state to the other while pushing your limits, making new friends and testing your brain.



The greatest challenge faced by the whole activities team was filling the entertainment role. This was a massive task that forced strain on the activities team and took them away from completing their own individual tasks. The ability to find entertainment acts was successful and once completed was a massive task that was easy to tick off. One of the hardest challenges was in regards to the stage and once again the main issues were around the communication and lack of consultation with the organising committee, from people within the branch. It got to the point where particular people had to be removed and barred from any communication in regards to the Moot. This of course caused backlash but it was the best option moving forward.

Onsite and Offsite activities included OAS progression opportunities as well as training courses. This was a great inclusion and once again something that we do recommend to future Moot committees. We also invited the Venturers to assist with the running of these activities, as they would only be onsite during the day this was completely fine. As we were very limited for Adventurous Activity leaders, having the Venturers was a great advantage. Leading on from that it is also important to start creating a list of trained Adventurous leaders early. This will allow you to address the qualifications that you are missing and the opportunity to upskill those interested.

List of Offsite Activities:

- Water Activities Hub
- Abseiling
- Mini Golf
- Sailing - Course
- Hot Air Balloon
- Tasmanian Devil Workshop
- Horse Riding
- River Cruise
- Tasmazia
- Waterfalls of the North West
- Wildlife Experience
- Tall Ships
- Golf
- Latrobe Speedway
- The Nut (Stanley)
- Tamar Valley Wine Tour
- Western Shuttle (Burnie)
- Eastern Shuttle (Devonport)
- 4WD
- Distillery Tour



- Food Tour
- 10 Pin Bowling
- Rafting
- hiking Mount Roland
- Hollybanks adventure day
- Fishing
- Canyoning
- Gunns Plains Caves
- Mt Biking
- Hiking (Cradle)

Onsite activities:

- Giant Monopoly
- Giant scrabble
- Human foosball
- E-activities trailer/Room
- Giant jenga
- Giant twister
- Laser tag (outsourced)
- Sumo wrestling, bungee run, mechanical bull (party games outsource)
- Disc Golf
- Jelly wrestling
- Soap soccer
- Painting
- Trowunna aboriginal art activities
- Macrame
- Sewing (1000 hearts)
- Heritage centre hub
- Movie screen
- Chill out Zone

OLEMS created many issues for us especially during the moot. There was many times when we were unable to process transactions at the bar because of these issues. As part of our letter of offer we were required to use the OLEMs platform for all registrations.

Some of the issues we found with this are:

- The system has no mobile web view, given many people and especially young people are increasingly using their mobile devices during events to interact with the system this is a clear oversight
- The POS system had no ability to edit items



- The POS system failed almost constantly resulting in a large amount of lost transactions throughout the event
- There is no visible audit log available to the event committee, we are unable to audit who has done what the entire event includes administration actions.

There were also many issues surrounding the communication with the the owner of OLEMS, this resulted in significant mental health impacts on many of the moot team members. Some of the issues we faced are:

- Our initial engagement with Round Table took a large number of months to get a draft contract
- The contract was vague in its delivery and scope
- We had no option but to sign the contract else be in jeopardy of being in conflict with the requirements of our letter of offer
- There was clear issues with the system owner being able to communicate with anyone new to them and on numerous occasions displayed abusive, unprofessional behaviour
- Moot team were given completely different answers to questions than third parties and other members of Scouts Tasmania, wasting time and effort

The cloud productivity suite selection, deployment and onboarding was one of the most critical part of the technology portfolio. The suite needed to cover emails, document storage and access, calendar sharing, video conferencing and backup storage.

There were two main options for this kind of platform are Microsofts Office 365 (as it was branded in 2018) and Googles gSuite (as was branded in 2018). The two platforms had advantages and the branch was already using Office 365 as their platform. Both platforms would be able to be used free of charge using the non-profit grants through techsoup/connecting up so pricing was not a consideration.

It was decided to utilise Google gSuite. This was in conjunction with the adoption by TasRovers. This decision was made as it was recognised that Google accounts are more ubiquitous than Microsoft accounts which would allow for more flexibility when working with members outside the more MOT. The other major advantage of the Google offering was it browser based nature, no one would need to have anything other than a modern web browser installed to work with the moot. Working in the environment where no endpoint devices were controlled and licences beyond access were not going to be assigned this was essential. In



2018 there was also a major feature gap in collaboration between Office 365 and gSuite with real time collaboration only be available on the Google platform.

The main website used for Apple Isle Moot, started as a self hosted site, made by Owen (IT officer) to collect expressions of interest and emails for the mailing list. This site ran for about a year as a simple, minimal- information page. Then, once more information was collated, like location, name, dates, etc, a more formal website was created using Google Sites and launched in early-mid 2021. The website was hosted by Scouts Tasmania and ran separately from the registration and shop pages.

Google Sites was a great choice for ease of editing for the whole team. While setup and hosting was organised by the IT Officer, editing could be done by anyone on the team who was given access - this allowed several people to keep an eye out for spelling errors, update activities as they filled, and push updates as they needed. It was also free.

The collection of emails prior to the official launch was great for gauging interest and creating an initial mailing list while our social media pages were still getting off the ground.

We had many issues surrounding the way the Moot organising team was treated during the years leading up to the moot and also during the moot. This created lots of issues that were not required and placed a large amount of unnecessary stress on the team. Many times members of the Tasmanian Branch made decisions on the moot teams behalf with no consultation and gave us no ability to voice our opinion on the matter or change the decision. One of these examples is the purchase of the alcohol for the bar, we seeked out a variety of quotes from many different providers. We never saw the quote or any information from the provider that we were forced to use because it was a scouting contact. While yes this may have been the best offer it gave us no control over the choices of alcohol or the prices in which we could sell these at. It then left the moot team in an uncomfortable position having to answer questions around the prices with no information around this. While this is just one situation there were many of different times where the moot team were disrespected in this way and left many feeling untrusted and not supported from the branch. There were also many issues surrounding Branch commissioners and Project Commissioners communicating with the youth/young people on the moot team. There were many instances when moot team members would be trying to reach out for support from adult members of the movement and would get no response, where they would reply to other adult members of the movement. We recommend creating a strong trusting relationship with the Branch team and the ability to have open and honest two-way communication.



Overall, with the setbacks we were faced with it was a rewarding opportunity and something that we are able to look back and reflect. There are many ways in which we as individuals are able to grow and ways that our Branch can grow as well. Like any event there were ups and downs, the important learnings from this are that we learn from the challenges and celebrate the achievements.

Recommendations

- Ensure you are filling the positions as early as possible and with the right people. These people should be chosen based on their ability to complete the role and the experience they can bring, not who they are.
- Ensure you identify the activities you are wanting to offer early and working with the Adventurous activities team early to allow upskilling should it be needed.
- Knowing it is okay to remove people from the team who are not meeting KPI's and fulfilling their position.
- Select a platform that is right for the MOC/MOT knowing that this may not align with the branch. A major event is an opportunity to try things so don't miss it.
- While Google Sites is very easy to use for everyone, it is very limited in formatting and interactivity (can't put pictures in a collapsible container...) so if you have someone on the team who can and will be able to maintain a website, go for it. Otherwise, Google Sites, especially if your branch provides you with a Google Suite for your team, is an easy choice
- create a strong trusting relationship with the Branch team and the ability to have open and honest two-way communication.
- Include OAS progression opportunities in Activities were available.
- Get a variety of quotes and contacts for everything you are outsourcing. There are all different options out there and shop around for the right deal.
- Ensure that plans and operational plans are easy to follow and are well written to ensure that incase of an unfortunate event someone else is able to pick up your position and take over.
- Have support people around that are external to the moot team. These could be friends or family or other scouting personnel not directly related to the moot team.



Key learnings

- Support each other, know your team and know their strengths and weaknesses.
- Know when you need to step back and take a break, you are only able to work at your best when you are at your best. Also being supportive to those who do need a break.
- Acting on emotions never ends well for anyone, take a second and approach the situation with a clear head.
- Not everyone is going to agree with you and you're not going to agree with everyone else, being able to listen to each other is important and allow everyone the chance to speak.