



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF **LIVE STEAMERS**

AALS Web Site

www.aals.asn.au

Limited

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55th ANNUAL CONVENTION

AGM AGENDA

Saturday, 23rd April, 2011 at 5.00 pm

**at the grounds of the Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-Op Society Ltd, Edgeworth,
NSW.**

1. The President of the Lake Macquarie Live Steam Locomotive Co-Op Society Ltd , Mr Jeff Wakeham, will hand over to the President of AALS, Mr Roger Kershaw.

2. APOLOGIES.

3. DEPARTED FRIENDS.

The following friends have departed this life since we were last together.

South West Model Engineers Association WA Inc, Bob Brown;
Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers, John Campbell;
Castledare Miniature Railways WA, Fran Jones;
Quirindi Village Miniature Railway Inc, Colin Saunders;

The Chairman, Roger Kershaw, will call for a minute's silence to remember them.

4. MINUTES of 2010 AGM (circulated).

5. CORRESPONDENCE.

- 6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT (circulated). The President will make a verbal update.**
 - 7. SECRETARY’S REPORT (circulated).**
 - 8. ADOPTION of FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and receipt of AUDITOR’S REVIEW REPORT (circulated).**
 - 9. INSURANCE OFFICER’S REPORT (circulated).**
 - 10. AMBSC CHAIRMAN’S REPORT (circulated).**
 - 11. ALSSC CHAIRMAN’S REPORT and CONSULTATION REPORT (circulated).**
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The Proxy Voting Form will serve the dual purpose of identifying your selected Proxy voter at the meeting and include an abbreviated list of the motions and tick boxes which may be completed with your (society’s) instruction concerning your vote for each of the motions. Voting may be conducted on the Proxy Voting Form enclosed or by your Proxy at the meeting.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

12(a) National Secretary of the AALS Ltd.

One nomination has been received for the position of National Secretary of the AALS. The Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc has nominated Hugh Elsol. Hugh Elsol’s CV is attached.

Only one nomination has been received, therefore Hugh Elsol will be declared elected at the meeting.

12(b) National Treasurer of AALS Ltd.

One nomination has been received for the position of National Treasurer of the AALS. The Campaspe Valley Miniature Railway Inc has nominated Ross Walker. Ross Walker’s CV is attached.

Only one nomination has been received, therefore Ross Walker will be declared elected at the meeting.

12(c) National Secretary AMBSC:

One nomination has been received for the position of National Secretary of AMBSC. The Penwood Railroad Inc has nominated Les Irwin. Les Irwin’s CV is attached.

Only one nomination has been received, therefore Les Irwin will be declared elected at the meeting.

13. SPECIAL BUSINESS

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS

13(a)

That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:

Reasons for the resolution, 13(a):

The size of the convention has grown considerably over time with the number of people and the amount of equipment in attendance. The number of clubs with the facilities to hold a convention has become limited. The rigid rotation of the convention around the states as required by the standing orders has not been able to be achieved in the past and will be difficult to achieve in the future. It is proposed to remove the rotation around the states from the standing orders.

7 (delete existing clause 7 in its entirety and substitute the following)

CONVENTIONS

- (a) The Company shall promote an annual convention during the annual Easter holiday period.
- (b) The convention venue shall be chosen by:
 - (i) the Board based on an offer from a Member, or;
 - (ii) the Board based on an invitation from the Company to a Member, or;
 - (iii) a resolution at the annual general meeting.

In each case the chosen venue must possess the necessary overall facilities to adequately conduct a satisfactory convention in view of the increasing numbers of visitors, road vehicles, and the variety of track gauges required.

- (c) The host Member is responsible for notifying Members invited to attend a convention of any special local requirements regarding the safety code.
- (d) Invitations should be issued no later than five (5) months prior to a convention. Accommodation lists should be provided no later than the 30th of June each year.
- (e) The host Member's decision on safety matters at the convention is final.
- (f) In the event of minors driving or operating equipment during conventions, the host Member must ensure that Section 5.2.3 of the Code of Practice: Operations of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant is observed.
- (g) As far as possible the public is to be excluded from attendance at conventions, but if the host Member is committed to a public event during the convention period, then such public event should be limited to the period between 1300 hours and 1600 hours on one day only (preferably Sunday) and all Members must be notified of this no later than the issue of official invitations.

- (h) Standard colours for identification ribbons at conventions are to be:
- (i) Red Victoria.
 - (ii) Brown A.C.T.
 - (iii) Green South Australia.
 - (iv) Light Blue Tasmania.
 - (v) Yellow New South Wales.
 - (vi) Purple Western Australia.
 - (vii) Orange Queensland.
 - (viii) White Northern Territory.
 - (ix) Black New Zealand.
 - (x) Dark Blue Visitors.
- (i) At the host Member's discretion trade stands within the scope of the hobby may be permitted at conventions.
- (j) Only the Members are to receive official invitations to attend the annual convention. However, non-members who have applied for membership will be invited to attend the annual convention at the discretion of the host Member. The Company Secretary will supply details of such membership applications to the host Member who shall register them as visitors.
- (k) Members of non-member organisations, or lone model engineers, may attend conventions upon personal application for a registration form from the host Member, such persons to be registered as visitors.
- (l) The host club has the right to charge fees to persons attending the Convention.
- (m) No Convention fees shall be payable by directors of the Company.

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(b)

That the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:

Reasons for the resolution, 13(b):

The current requirement for the Technical Representative to the ALSSC to be a professionally qualified mechanical engineer has proved to be unnecessarily onerous, and has been the prime factor in the position's remaining vacant for many years. Professional mechanical engineering has changed in its

focus in the past twenty years to embrace advanced technology and engineering practice. A number of other professions and sub-tertiary qualified people now provide the majority of participants in safe work methods, risk management, and industrial design. Recent reformatting and redrafting of the operational codes have highlighted the fact that a number of members of member clubs have the necessary skills and expertise to fulfil the position if the proposed motion amending the Standing Orders is passed.

5.8 (h) (delete existing clause 5.8 (h) in its entirety and substitute the following)

5.8 (h) The Technical Officer of the Australian Live Steamers Safety Committee shall advise the committee officers on design and safety matters, and should have appropriate qualifications and experience relevant to design and safety matters, and need not necessarily be a financial member of a Member.

Comment: The Board supports this revision.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(c)

That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice for Interoperability and Safety of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.

Reasons for the resolution, 13(c):

Following suggestions by the Bankstown Steam Locomotive Society it is proposed to alter 4.2.1. This fits better with Clause 4.2.2.

4.2.1 Delete “Effective brakes shall be fitted to carriages utilised for public passenger carrying.” And substitute “Effective brakes shall be fitted to Trains utilised for public passenger carrying”.

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(d)

That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice for Interoperability and Safety of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.

Reasons for the resolution, 13(d):

Carriages

The essence of the change is to:

1. Remove the provision for carrying public passengers on 3½” gauge. This is now considered to be redundant.
2. Change the carriage dimensions to be general and typical, and consistent.
3. Ensure design goals required for safety are included but without prejudicing any specific design.

6.3, 6.4, 6.5 (delete existing clauses 6.3, 6.4, & 6.5 in their entirety and substitute the following).

- 6.3** Common Requirements for carriages that are used for the carrying of public passengers
- 6.3.1 Carriages that are used for the carrying of public passengers shall:
 - 6.3.1.1 Be a bogie type
 - 6.3.1.2 Incorporate end boards to prevent passengers riding across two carriages or slipping endways off the car.
 - 6.3.1.3 Incorporate full length footboards on straddle type cars. Such footboards must not be of a width which may increase the risk of overturning or provide some other hazard, and if such footboards incorporate up-turned edges, such up-turned edges must not exceed 100mm in height.
 - 6.3.1.4 Have full length guards provided to prevent passenger contact with track or running equipment.
 - 6.3.1.5 Have a place at each end on to which a passenger can hold.
 - 6.3.1.6 Incorporate a suspension arrangement that ensures the vertical forces act within the wheel gauge.
 - 6.3.1.7 Have a minimum gauge of 127mm (5 inch).
 - 6.3.1.8 Recognise and allow for the potential for overturning given the gauge, mass and width of the vehicle.
 - 6.3.1.9 Be consistent with the track structure (including loading) and structure gauge of the railway.
 - 6.3.1.10 Incorporate buffers or other protection to prevent the potential jamming of passengers' hands in the event of a derailment.
 - 6.3.1.11 Have no places which could cause the trapping of a passenger's hands or limbs.

6.4 127mm (5") Gauge Straddle Type Public Passenger Carriages

- 6.4.1 Straddle type Carriages that are used for the carrying of public passengers utilised on 127mm (5") gauge railways should have the following characteristics:
 - 6.4.1.1 Length 1520-1830mm (5' - 6') long,
 - 6.4.1.2 Seat boards 250-300mm (10"-12") wide
 - 6.4.1.3 Seat Height 180-250mm (7"-10") above footboards (ground level rolling stock)
 - 6.4.1.4 Foot boards 100 -115mm (4" - 4½") wide Seat 5 adults maximum
 - 6.4.1.5 End boards 100mm (4") high minimum above the seat
 - 6.4.1.6 Hand holds approximately 50-150mm (2"-6") above the seat

6.5 184mm (7¼") Gauge Carriages that are used for the carrying of public passengers

- 6.5.1 Carriages that are used for the carrying of public passengers whether straddle type or sit-in type, utilised on 184mm (7¼") gauge railways should have the following characteristics:
 - 6.5.1.1 Length 1830mm-2500mm (6'-8') long bogie type to seat 4 to 7 Adults.
 - 6.5.1.2 Seat boards 250 - 300mm (10" - 12")
 - 6.5.1.3 Seat Height 250-300mm (10"-12") above foot boards.
 - 6.5.1.4 Foot board width 100 - 150mm (4" - 6")

6.5.1.5 End Boards 100mm (4") high above the seat

6.5.1.6 Hand holds approx 50mm -150mm (2"-6") above the seat

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(e)

That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice for Operations for Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.

Reasons for the resolution, 13(e):

These changes are due to incorrect references:

On page 8 of 19 section 4.4 Insurance claims, 4.4.1.9 refers to details as outlined in 3.4.1.6 and 3.4.1.8 above.

These references should be 4.4.1.4 to 4.4.1.6.

4.4.1.9 delete '3.4.1.6' and '3.4.1.8' and substitute '4.4.1.4 to 4.4.1.6'.

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(f)

That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice for Operations for Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.

Reasons for the resolution, 13(f):

Ages of Operators and Attendants for Miniature Railways.

Background

At the 2010 AGM a motion regarding ages of operators and attendants was withdrawn due to legislated requirements potentially being different to that proposed.

Relevant Legislation

OH, & S Regulations NSW Page 206 Chapter 9 Part9.1 Division 1 section 265 (d) (ii) and in the Victorian Regulations Schedule 4 Sections 2.7 & 2.8 on pages 484 & 485 states that an AMBSC boiler is not considered a boiler for the purposes of **certification of the operator** if it is operated by a person over 18 when in a public place. AS 3533 (Amusement Devices). This document excludes us by scope, however as it was used as the basis for our Code of Practice it is useful as a guide. Appendix G (clause a) of AS3533.2 requires operators to be more than 18. Attendants (clause b) may be under 18, but it is not specific on how old they should be.

There is no specific requirement in OH&S legislation or regulations regarding ages for amusement devices, as far as can be ascertained.

It has also been pointed out that the term 'days' is inappropriate and any restrictions should be actually only during public running.

5.2 (delete existing clause in its entirety and substitute the following)

5.2 Minimum Age

5.2.1 The minimum age for Attendants during Public Running shall be fifteen (15) years of age.

5.2.2 The minimum age for Operators during Public Running shall be if operating a steam boiler, eighteen (18) years of age, and otherwise shall be fifteen (15) years of age. Persons fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years of age inclusive shall be under direct supervision of an Operator, eighteen (18) years of age or older at all times.

5.2.3 The minimum age for Operators during Non-Public Running shall be seven (7) years of age. Persons seven (7) to seventeen (17) years of age inclusive shall be under direct supervision of an Operator, eighteen (18) years of age or older at all times.

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

13(g)

That the following changes be made to the Code of Practice for Operations of Miniature Railways, Road Vehicles and Plant.

Reasons for the resolution, 13(g):

The Bankstown Steam Locomotive Society has noted Clause 5.2.3 uses the words 'competent person' when the intent is that it should be 'Operator.'

5.2.3 Delete 'competent person' and substitute 'Operator'.

(Note this adjustment is included in the motion above regarding Ages but is also included here in the event that that motion is not adopted.)

Comment: The Board supports these changes.

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

A motion about the Standing Orders sent by Diamond Valley Railway Inc was unable to be included. The text of the letter sent to that Society was:

“We have obtained legal advice to the effect that parts of the proposed resolution relating to the proposed independence of the AMBSC are unconstitutional and therefore invalid. If the AMBSC was to have independence, constitutional amendments would be required, together with the establishment of a separate legal entity, presumably with limited liability, and wholly owned by AALS.

This information will be placed in the 2011 AGM agenda so that all clubs will be aware of the outcome of your proposed motion.”

14 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

14(a) Highlands Miniature Railway Inc, NSW. This recently formed group has established a 5” G miniature railway at Bowral in the NSW Southern Highlands. ***The Directors recommend that this Society be admitted to the Association.***

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

14(b) Model Engineers and Live Steamers Highfields Inc, Queensland. This group has a 7¼” G track at Jondaryn in SE Queensland. ***The Directors recommend that this Society be admitted to the Association.***

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

14(c) Edward River Steam Railway Inc, NSW. While it has had difficulty in obtaining a site from its local council in Deniliquin in SW NSW since 2004, this has now been resolved and a portable 7¼” G track has now established. ***The Directors recommend that this Society be admitted to the Association.***

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

14(d) Hamilton Model Railway Group Inc, Victoria. This SW Victorian group originated in 2003 to build an HO layout and, having done that, is now constructing a 7¼” G railway at the Pastoral Museum in Hamilton. ***The Directors recommend that this Society be admitted to the Association.***

Please cast your vote on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

15. AFFILIATION FEE 2011 – 2012

The Board recommends that the Affiliation Fee reduces to \$1.50 (which includes the GST).

Comment: The reasons are that the Association’s expenses are stable and for ten years the monies held as a contingency reserve have not been required, so it is felt a reduction in fees is appropriate.

Please cast your votes on the Proxy Form enclosed, or cast your vote by your Proxy at the meeting.

16. WHEN AND WHERE: 2012 AND BEYOND

Penfield is now advanced in its preparation for the 2012 Convention. The Queensland Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc sent an offer to host the 2013 Convention, but other offers now are still welcomed.

2012 Convention: Penfield Model Engineers Society Inc, South Australia.

2013 Convention: ?

17. VOTE OF THANKS

Close of Meeting.

Note that the presentation of annual awards will commence following the meeting (1830).