

NDAAA (AC) - MINUTES of AGM 2020

Venue - Virtual Meeting held over ZOOM 22nd Aug 2020 1500 hr AEST - 1715 hr AEST

Attendance - Office Bearers. Maj Rajiv Seth (Officiating President and Vice President), Lt Col AK Nayyar (Treasurer) and Col Rajesh Kaswan (Secretary)

Attendance - Permanent members. Col Arun Sahgal, Cdr RK Mittal, Col SK Sakhuja VSM, Maj Samir Shrivastava, Brig Vivek Lall SM, Col BS Godara, Cdr Benny Manuel, Lt Col Atul Suchdeva, Lt Col Ambar Banerji, Maj Sukhkirat Khara, Cdr Aruna Ranganathan

Attendance - Associate Members and Applicants. Col JK Maindiratta, Maj Yashpal Nagar, Col Diwakar Dogra VSM, Cdr Pankaj Joshi, Brig Jagdeep Mann, Col Mohit Nasa

Attendance - Observer. Maj Gen Ranjit Nadkarni and Brig Ajit Apte (Senior Vice President NDA Alumni Association Central, Khadakwasla, Pune)

Ser #	Seuence of Events	Presented By	Action
1	Secretary announced the AGM to commence as the quorum was completed. The AGM commenced at 1500 hr AEST and was closed at 1715 hr AEST.	Col Rajesh Kaswan, Secretary	The secretary covered the following points - 1. Meeting to commence as the quorum was complete as per Rule 48. 2. AGM was originally scheduled for 8th June, postponed to 18th July due to COVID and finally had to be held over ZOOM due to current COVID travel restrictions. 3. Meeting to be video recorded for ease and accuracy of preparation of minutes.
2	President's opening remarks	Maj Rajiv Seth, Officiating President	The Officiating President covered the following points - 1. Welcomed and thanked all attending including special thanks to Maj Gen Nadkarni and Brig Ajit Apte, thanked the current committee and various other members including the ex President (who had resigned recently) and conveyed best wishes to the new incoming committee to be elected later during the proceedings. 2. Briefly covered the recent unfortunate developments pertaining to the ex-President's resignation on his own accord and also extended standing invitation to all ex-members to rejoin. 3. Covered the immediate goals of the Chapter and the importance of networking and that we should aim to be an inclusive organization and also interact with other non NDA veterans. 4. Going forward, online ZOOM meetings may be the new norm which has its own advantages.
3	Secretary's report	Col Rajesh Kaswan, Secretary	The secretary covered the following points -1. Informed all members of the unsolicited emails being received and that they could block them from coming in. 2. That members' email IDs which is privileged information, have been taken off the Register of Members and being misused by an ex-member, which is incorrect. Options will be explored to address the issue. 3. Ex-members are approaching current members to resign from the Chapter which is again incorrect.

			Definition of Associate members was discussed and approved - Associate Member - NDA alumni temporarily visiting Australia and NDA alumni who declare to have family ties/connections/other interests in Australia and are planning to either visit or immigrate to Australia. This was proposed by the secretary, seconded by Maj Rajiv Seth and passed unanimously by those who were permanent members of the Chapter in the year 2019-2020. However, this will be taken up as part of amendment of Rules, being covered separately further below. Refer Point # 19 below.
			The members took into account the Covid-19 related delays and unanimously approved that the applications of Associate members who have applied after 01 July 2020 will be formally accepted once the Rules are amended and approved. Refer point above Refer point above.
			The secretary apprised all that the strength of the Chapter will be 22 permanent members and 19 associate members (including recent Associate membership applicants to be confirmed after rules changed).
4	Treasurer's report	Lt Col AK Nayyar, Treasurer	The Treasurer covered the following points - 1. Provided the account state and explained the major income and expenses. 2. Informed that the life membership fees of 2 members was refunded as they had resigned. 3. The membership fees for the current year of those who had recently resigned was also refunded, if they had paid. 4. Centrally procured NDA Coffee Table Books are currently with the ex-President, Lt Col Arvind Sinha and are yet to be handed over to the Secretary for further distribution to members who paid for them. The CTBs will be collected one Covid related restrictions ease.
			The Treasurer proposed a revision of annual membership fees to be as follows - Permanent member - \$ 20 and Associate member - \$ 10. This was unanimously approved and passed to be effective for the year 2020-21 for all members including those who have joined/applied after 1st July 2020. All members to pay the fees asap. Col JKM put up the point that a list of Sundry Creditors and Debtors be circulated, prior to and at the AGM, going forward. Treasurer to action.
5 *	Election of New Committee *	Details below	There was only one nominee for each position. All the nominees were unanimously declared elected.
6	New Committee to assume charge	New Committee	New Committee assumed charge and was welcomed unanimously.
7	Accounts to be approved	Presented by the Treasurer. Proposed for approval by - Maj Sukhkirat Khara, Seconded by - Maj Samir Shrivastava	Accounts approved unanimously.

8	Minutes of last AGM to be approved	Proposed for approval by - Col SK Sakhuja, VSM. Seconded by - Col BS Godara	Minutes of AGM 2019 approved unanimously.		
9 #	Discussion of Agenda Points		See below		
10	Other businesses to include impromptu points if any		NIL		
11	Remarks by Maj Gen Ranjit Nadkarni in the capacity of Observer		Maj Gen Ranjit Nadkarni covered the following points - Though I am not yet a member but would like to make a few observations. 1. All ex-NDAs must become a member of NDAA Central as we can't be calling ourselves NDA Alumni if we are not part of the NDAA Central. Keeping in mind the good work they are doing for a worthy cause, we all must become members and I request those who are not yet members to consider becoming members, not legislating but joining the Alma Mater Alumni should come by heart. You will also be looked after very well if you happen to visit NDA as a member of NDAA Central. 2. Let's keep the bureaucracy to the bare minimum and keep it simple though for legal matters, a great deal of thought is required but for other matters, keep it as simple as possible. 3. We are just a handful of NDA Alumni in Australia, let's find ways and means of getting everyone together under one Chapter.		
12	Remarks by Brig Ajit Apte, Senior Vice-President NDAA Central in the capacity of Observer		Brig Ajit Apte covered the following points - 1. Best wishes to the chapter and to the newly elected President, hope things return back to normal in the Chapter as they all see the Australian chapter to be a great example of camaraderie overseas. I am always available for any help and that the Secretary has been in regular touch with me. 2. Request some articles from the Chapter for their October newsletter. 3. Request Col BS Godara for some pictures of ADFA as it was made, based on the NDA model. 4. Would like to become an Associate member of the chapter. 5. There are many advantages of becoming a member of NDA Alumni Central and invited all to visit the Alma Mater NDA and that everyone would be looked after well.		
13	Concluding remarks by Col Arun Sahgal, President and vote of thanks to the Outgoing Committee		The newly elected President thanked the outgoing committee and this was seconded by Maj Sukhkirat Khara. He covered the following points - 1. With our combined experience, we all can contribute to the betterment of the Chapter. 2. Will try and get the ex-members back into the fold as we should have only one NDA Alumni chapter in Australia and will work towards that. 3. There is only one NDA and thus there should be only one NDA Alumni chapter here. 4. Best wishes to the Chapter, let's stay in touch and help each other.		
5 *	Election of New Committee *	Proposed by	Seconded by	Elected person	Elected by
		Col SK Sakhuja, VSM	All present	President - Col Arun Sahgal	Elected unanimously
		Maj Samir Shrivastava	All present	Vice President - Cdr Aruna Ranganathan	Elected unanimously
		Maj Rajiv Seth	All present	Secretary - Col Rajesh Kaswan	Elected unanimously
		Lt Col AK Nayyar	All present	Treasurer - Brig Vivek Lall, SM	Elected unanimously
		Secretary		Ordinary Members - 2	Decided unanimously to have 2 Ordinary members

		Secretary		ACT/NSW - Cdr Benny Manuel	Elected unanimously. Secretary to inform the member accordingly as the member had to leave the AGM pre-maturely.
		Secretary		SA/WA - Lt Col Ajay Vishwakarma	Elected unanimously (in absentia). Secretary to inform the member accordingly
				VIC/TAS - Vacant	NA
				QLD/NT - Vacant	NA
9 #	Agenda Points #	Proposed by	Seconded by	Discussion/Decision	Remarks/Action
14	Annual membership fees	Col JK Maindiratta and few others		Suggested fees - \$ 20 for permanent members and \$ 10 for Associate members.	Already unanimously passed as proposed by the Treasurer during his report. Ref Point # 4 above.
15	Approx expenditure of \$ 600 for website/emails/maintenance - www.ndaaaac.org.au	Secretary	Treasurer	Discussed and approved unanimously	Col JK Maindiratta advised to explore the feasibility of getting the website maintenance/updated by someone who could do it cheaper or inhouse if some member could do it. Secretary to explore and all Associate members are requested to advise if someone available for maintenance in India.
16	Newsletter contents/periodicity/procedure for publication and requirement of an Editor	Brig Vivek Lall, Col JK Maindiratta	Maj Samir Shrivastava	Discussed and unanimously agreed to continue with the newsletter as it's a good tool for ensuring the visibility of the chapter	The AGM approved a Sub-committee comprising Maj Samir Shrivastava and Brig Vivek Lall SM to establish the modalities, periodicity, contents, release, etc. and put up to the Committee for approval. Col JK Maindiratta agreed to assist by providing inputs where required and opined that it could be issued quarterly and only Special Issues should carry articles from others, the quarterly newsletter should only carry news items. Report to be implemented once approved by the Committee.
17	Freedom/Space to Committee Members	Col JK Maindiratta		Unanimously agreed to be covered as part of Point # 19 below.	To be covered as part of Point # 19 below.
18	Committee Members Post Falling Vacant - Procedure to fill in	Col JK Maindiratta		Unanimously agreed to be covered as part of Point # 19 below.	To be covered as part of Point # 19 below.
19	Modifications of Rules to include Purpose, Membership criteria, Committee composition, Resignation and Reinstatement, etc. Suggested a sub committee to look into all the Rules and revise them where required. Refer Pt # 13 if decided to have an Editor.	Col JK Maindiratta		Unanimously agreed to be considered by a sub-committee.	The AGM approved a Sub-committee comprising Cdr RK Mittal, Brig Vivek Lall SM, Maj Samir Shrivastava and Col Rajesh Kaswan to have a relook at the Rules and suggest changes required. Once finalized, to be ratified by the Committee and then passed at a general meeting. Once passed, to be implemented and uploaded to Consumer Affairs Vic website.

20	Cooling Off period after member resigns. There should be a cooling off period of at least 6 months after a member resigns to be permitted to rejoin.	Secretary		The secretary proposed for this agenda point to be withdrawn, also seconded by Brig Vivek Lall SM.	Point closed.
21	Points from previous Meetings/AGM that need to be Actioned/Closed Out.	Point Came up at		Decision that was taken then	Remarks/Action/Decision taken at AGM 2020
22	Committee: Regional Membership to state membership.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		NSW & ACT to have their own subchapters. To be put up as and agenda point at the AGM and then passed	Unanimously decided that Status quo to be maintained. Proposed by Brig Vivek Lall SM and seconded by Col BS Godara.
23	Members to provide bio-data and picture with spouse for uploading on the website.	AGM 2019		Secretary will have them uploaded to the website as and when received	The biodata will be uploaded as and when received. Members discretion whether to send individual picture and/or picture with spouse. Proposed by Maj Sukhkirat Khara and seconded by Col BS Godara.
24	NDAAA Central Membership.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Secretary will organize dispatch of 2nd batch of membership forms as and when received from applying members.	Some members of NDAAA(AC) are already members of NDAA Central and have the membership cards. This issue was extensively discussed and Brig Apte apprised all that the funds collected by the NDAA Central are spent for various welfare activities. Following the proposal made by Col JK Maindiratta and after due deliberations on this point, Brig Apte agreed to explore the feasibility of members of NDAAA(AC) to be deemed members of NDAA Central. Brig Apte requested that a list of members be sent to him for follow up action. Secretary to action.
25	Appointment of Advisory Panel of Specialists (Legal, Medical, Education, Immigration....): In Service of members.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		1. President and Secretary to jointly identify the areas and appropriate Specialists . 2. SKS to commence draft development of SOP on Special Advisory Panel that addresses the role and scope of specialists.	Unanimously decided the point may be considered closed.
26	Duties of Office Bearers: Revisit to include new positions and equal work distribution	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Vice President to revisit the duties and present at the AGM.	To be incorporated in other Review of Rules Point - Sub Committee. Point # 19 refers.

27	SOPs: Approval process and endorsement	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020 and also by Col JK Maindiratta		SOPs to be developed and Finalised as under :- Initial Draft and Proposal to be signed by the member developing it and endorsed by NDAAA(AC) PRO & Policy, Recommended by Secretary and Approved by Vice President. Once approved, this be sent to all members and uploaded on the website. The topics for which SOPs are required, be identified by the Policy Team. Presently SOPS under development, are on Demise of Members, Communication, Excursion and Welcoming of New Members. AP brought out that only a senior member may advise, on one to one basis if something doesn't adhere to the SOP.	Unanimously decided that we should make the Chapter less bureaucratic. Hence this point may be left unactioned and considered closed.
28	Website: Op immediate tasks and routine tasks	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Tasking List to be prepared jointly by President and AP and progressed for action by Webmaster	Webmaster not a success - Secretary in touch with the website developers for updating the website. No further action is needed and hence closed.
29	NDAAA(AC) Inaugural Conference on Def Edn & Trg 2021: Formation of Organising & Technical Committee and Venue Sponsor.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Organising a Conf on Defence Edn & Trg, agreed in principle. Modalities and feasibility to be assessed. Draft Focus and Scope to be jointly prepared by President and SS and be forwarded to all members for their comments. A two day event may be planned in 2021. Cost, Venue, Sponsorship etc to be covered.	The Chapter currently lacks the resources and has other pressing concerns. This point to be left unactioned and considered closed.
30	Merchandise: New Ties (Maj Shrivastava's recommended material)	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		SS recommended material for ties. SR to finalise Caps, Lapel pins, etc.	Merchandising and procurement of items for an online shop could be considered from 2021 onwards.
31	Our website should have an 'Update Yourself' section. It should display the relevant info for a year or longer if so desired. e.g., Army HQ letters wrt Veterans, AG Branch, ECHS, AGIF, CDA(P), AOBF (in process of refunding all monies) etc. Important happenings in NDA, IMA and other post-NDA Academies. Achievements of Non-Member ex-NDAs. Happenings in other ex-NDA groups, eg NDA Authors Club (under establishing) etc.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		President & AP for taking necessary action. To be further presented at the AGM by Secretary for consideration with the following points in view. 1. Policy letters can be best found on Indian Army/Navy/AF website, hence a link to this could be provided on NDAAA(AC) Website. 2. They keep getting superseded from time to time, so pt 1 will automatically address it. 3. Making links on our website will not raise any issue as it is in public domain. 4. Other news and happenings at NDA are already being covered in our current website.	No action is needed. The point may be considered closed.

32	Historical Log office bearer be detailed to generate and maintain a text-cum-pictorial record of all activities (important as well as 'supposedly insignificant'!) A lot of such activities have already happened. These records would come handy when a history of our formative years is penned (coffee table ebook)	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Copy of minutes of meetings, newsletters and visitors book are held with the Secretary in soft and hard copies. These presently serve as depository/archive for future references. The Newsletter and Visitors book captures the events chronologically, to serve as archives.	No action is needed. The point may be considered closed.
33	Coffee Table Book for NDA. Editorial Team to give recommendations for a Coffee Table Book.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Editorial team to present at the AGM. SS.	The issues may be considered in the future. No action for now.
34	Awards/Recognition	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		SKS to develop a brief proposal and present at the AGM for consideration by members.	No action is needed. The point may be considered closed.
35	Perth Members	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		SS to present viable options at the AGM for consideration to progress membership of NDAAA(AC) by Ex NDAs at Perth	No action is needed as a few members have already joined from Perth. Cdr Mittal advised about two more Alumni from Perth. Secretary to follow up.
36	International membership.	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		DA to link up with UK's DA to establish their Chapter. President to discuss with DA. JKM to propose structure at AGM 2020.	Unanimously decided to be deferred until the next AGM.
37	Attendance for Social Evenings	Quarterly Meeting 1/2020		Attendance at Social Evenings was discussed in details and following finalised. (a) Social Evenings are official functions for NDAAA(AC) members only - Rule 42 a refers. (b) Local resident Ex - NDA who is not a member may attend it only once. 2nd time onwards he needs to become a member of NDAAA(AC) (d) Family of NDAAA(AC) member, when Spouse/family cannot drive or when the member is out of station, a NDAAA(AC) member to pick up and drop, if this is not feasible alternative means like Uber or a family member is welcome to drive and be in attendance. (e) Ex NDA Visitor to Australia may like wise attend once and in future will need to become a member of NDAAA(AC). (f) Attendance by civilian : An imp personality to be decided in AGM.	No central directions required. To be left to the respective sub chapter. Hence point considered closed.

38	Welfare and civic responsibilities of the organization.	AGM 2019		For consideration at next AGM	No action is needed and the point may be considered as closed.
39	Gifts Policy.	AGM 2019		For consideration at next AGM	No action is needed and the point may be considered as closed.
40	Reciprocal membership with Clubs in Australia, India and overseas. MoU with RSL, if possible.	AGM 2019		To be considered at next AGM, Instead of RSL, ADFA Alumini network to be approached.	No action is needed and the point may be considered as closed. Ref point above for NDAA Central membership. Brig Apte clarified that it is very difficult to have a formal arrangement but informal arrangement exist between various associations within India and similarly advised to share list of members with the other chapters in India. Further, it should be possible to make informal reciprocal arrangements among chapters.
41	Funding from Army/Navy/AF HQ in India.	AGM 2019		For consideration at next AGM	No action is needed and the point may be considered as closed.