



# SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

The National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa  
A Member of the International Amateur Radio Union



Subject	<b>Minutes for SARL Council Meeting</b>		
Committee:	<b>Council</b>	Document No:	<b>CM2025_06b</b>
Author:	<b>Dennis Green, ZS4BS</b>		
Date:	<b>Friday 14 and Saturday 15 November 2025</b>		

Present:

Nico van Rensburg, ZS6QL (Chairman)	SARL President
Guy Eales, ZS6GUY	Vice President
Corrie de Beer, ZS6CDB	Treasurer
Karel Bezuidenhout, ZR6K	Councillor
Dave Higgs, ZS2DH	Councillor
Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT	Councillor
Phillip van Tonder, ZS6PVT	Councillor
Karel Bezuidenhout, ZS6WN	Councillor
Dennis Green, ZS4BS	SARL Secretary

Absent with Apologies

Chris Turner, ZS6GM	Councillor
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	<u>For Action</u>
<b>OPENING</b>	
1. ZS6QL opened the meeting at 09:00 and welcomed all. It was determined that a quorum was present and that the meeting could continue. Due to work commitments, ZS6CDB could only join on Saturday.	
<b>REMEMBRANCE OF SILENT KEYS</b>	
2. The Council noted the following Silent Keys since its last meeting. Gus Winter, ZS2MC, Tony Beckett, ZR1TT; Keith Duffield ZS5KAD; Eddie Dry ZS1EJD.	
<b>APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES</b>	
3. The minutes of the Council meeting of 15 October 2025 was approved. Proposed: ZS6GUY and Seconded: ZS1YT.	
<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
4. <u>Video Offer from Brandon, ZS6LZ.</u> ZS6GUY suggested that ZS6LZ take the SOTA talk of the Lesotho DXpedition and convert it to a video and make it available. Covering all aspects of the DXpedition – planning, batteries, antennas, modes, etc. ZS6GUY will visit ZS6LZ.	ZS6GUY
<b>THE 2026 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION</b>	
5. <u>Timings.</u> The AGM will be held on Saturday 2 May 2026. The AGM Booklet must be made available 30 days before the AGM; therefore, the Booklet must be uploaded on Thursday 2 April 2026. The Annual Report must be available on Friday 1 May 2026.	ZS4BS
7. <u>Council Nominations.</u> The following members of the Council will stand down at the 2026 AGM and are available to stand again, should	

	<u>For Action</u>
they be nominated: Karel Bezuidenhout, ZR6K; Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT; Dave Higgs, ZS2DH; Dennis Green, ZS4BS and Chris Turner ZS6GM. ZR6K and ZS2DH indicate that they will not be continuing. Council discusses possible candidates to fill the vacancies.	
8. <u>Feedback from PEARS.</u> A free shuttle from the airport will be provided. The Convention Invoice is discussed – conference details, accommodation, gala dinner, etc. ZS4BS to put in the claim for the payment of the deposit for the Willows. A Partners programme for Saturday morning to the Broadwalk is being arranged. On the Friday evening, an informal get-together will be arranged.	
9. <u>Awards.</u> The Council discussed the draft list of awards. This will be finalised at the Strat meeting in 2026.	
10. <u>Council Motions.</u> ZS4BS discussed the motion from Council - Changes to the Constitution with respect to the auditing function. This follows on from a question at the 2025 AGM about the terminology of auditor and reviewer.	
11. <u>Proxy Form.</u> Council discussed the format of the proxy form, after consulting the SARL Constitution and Rules. It is decided that the proxy will be an electronic form.	
<b>FINANCES</b>	
12. <u>Financial Reports.</u> ZS6CDB submitted the monthly financial reports for discussion. Items highlighted are the funds for the SARL 100 Book, the 2026 SARL AGM costs and the deposit to be paid to the Willows. The SARL Hamnet finances / regional accounts have been finalised.	
13. <u>The Annual Financial Statements.</u> ZS6QL, ZS6CDB and ZS6GUY will work through the document and then send it to the reviewers. The AFS will be made available on Thursday 2 April 2026 with the AGM Booklet. The voting on the AFS will take place at the AGM.	ZS6CDB, ZS6QL, ZS6GUY
14. <u>SARL HAMNET - Region Specific Accounts.</u> ZS6GUY will set-up sub-accounts for the various SARL Hamnet Regions at the ABSA bank. SARL Hamnet to provide a budget per region and the bank accounts will be updated.	ZS6GUY
<b>SARL WEBSITE</b>	
15. The website is made up of the WordPress part and the Member part. The integration of the Member part with the Sage is very expensive. The Team is working on plans to bring the Member section into the WordPress part.	
<b>NARC</b>	
16. <u>The Office and IT.</u> Upgrade of the office PC in process.	ZS6GUY
17. <u>Building Maintenance.</u> Possible roof leaks to be monitored during the rainy season.	ZS6PVT
18. <u>The Reno Faber Station.</u> A new PC is required for the remote software purchased during the year. It is planned to add a SDR receiver in 2026 to monitor the bands during a contest.	ZS6PVT

	<u>For Action</u>
<b>DEPT OF COMMUNICATIONS/ICASA</b>	
19. <u>SARL/ICASA Liaison.</u> The SARL has still not received feedback from ICASA about the SARL/ICASA Liaison meeting. The revised MoU plus one or two other matters have been submitted to the ICASA Council.	ZS6QL
20. <u>RAE and Licencing.</u> ZS1YT reports that the ICASA process is very slow. The licence registration for the RAE is a lengthy process. This topic is on the agenda of the SARL/ICASA Liaison working group.	
21. <u>The RAE date for October 2026.</u> Council received a request from the Voortrekkers to move the October RAE to the Saturday before CQ Hou Koers and JOTA. Following an online discussion with the RAE Manager, it is decided that the October RAE will take place on the second Saturday of October each year. For 2026, the RAE registration will open on Saturday 1 August open, close on Friday 25 September and the exam will take place on Saturday 10 October.	
22. <u>EMC/Interference.</u> No report.	
23. <u>Type Approval.</u> On the 28 September 2016, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) published a Discussion Document on Equipment Type Approval Exemption, General Notice 621 of 2016 (Government Gazette No. 40309) (“the Discussion Document,”) in terms of Section 4B of the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa Act, 2000, as amended. The purpose of the Discussion Document was to solicit input from interested parties on prescribing the following: The types of equipment, electronic communications facilities and radio apparatus, the use of which does not require approval where such equipment, electronic communications facilities and radio apparatus has been approved for use by the European Telecommunications Standards Associations or other competent standards body where the equipment complies with type approval standards prescribed by the Authority.  It was expected that the final document would be gazetted at the beginning of ICASA’s financial year in April this year. Recently the SARL requested ICASA for an update. ICASA replied as follows, “The procurement to appoint certification bodies was unsuccessful and we currently must re-do the process. This means we are yet again stuck with no prospect of enforcing the regulations yet and we are going to invite prospective certification bodies again some time in November. This means we will potentially be able to active (sic) the regulations early next year.”  It should be noted that this does not affect home brew equipment. The SARL will discuss the situation at the next liaison meeting in November.	
<b>SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT</b>	
24. <u>Contest Working Group.</u> The 2026 Blue Book is available for download from the SARL website. ZS6FY has created a holiday hunt contest to run from 15 December 2025 to 15 January 2026.	

	<u>For Action</u>
25. <u>QSL card and Certificates for SARL-100.</u> ZS6QL provided two examples. ZR6K will have a look at the designs.	ZR6K
26. <u>Repeater Working Group.</u> ZS6PVT reported that four repeater licences were applied for. ZS6PVT will follow-up on the Eden Club repeater to see if it is off the air. Repeater information has been received from several Clubs as well as from the digital repeaters (D-Star) group.	ZS6PVT
27. <u>SARL New Generation Beacon.</u> Given the current non activity on V/UHF, ZS6QL will investigate the possibility of setting up beacons in the various provinces under the current VHF beacon project. The possibility to draw the interest of clubs to participate is an avenue to explore to revive interest in long distance V/UHF activity.	ZS6QL
28. <u>Spectrum and Technology Monitoring Group.</u> Regular meetings take place with report back as required.	
<b>SARL HAMNET</b>	
29. Quarterly Council/Hamnet meeting to continue as discussed previously. It is necessary to look at the acquisition of equipment & asset management, the tighten of financial controls and review of the procedures for purchasing equipment. The ideal is to have a budget for deployment and equipment.	
30. Membership of SARL Hamnet is governed by the SARL Constitution and Rules. Adherence to these rules need to be communicated to the regions.	
31. The SARL Hamnet account is now part of the SARL bank account.	
<b>YOUTH</b>	
32. <u>December YOTA Month.</u> The ZS9YOTA call sign can be used by the East Rand ARC for the Scouting event in December.	
<b>BACAR</b>	
33. <u>BACAR 2026.</u> It was noted that Sandton plays a significant role in promoting BACAR annually, the costs are very expensive i.e., balloon and gas. Christo to be approached for a Webinar on how to participate in BACAR.	
34. <u>Pico Balloons.</u> The Secunda Club rolled out the first Pico balloon and had subsequent launches drawing quite an audience with participation in the tracking of these balloons. The interest grew with individuals / clubs successfully launching balloons as well. The ARC of Mauritius is part of this group drawing support from various individuals and had successful launched to date.	
<b>SUPPORT TO THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE (STARS)</b>	
35. <u>STARS.</u>	
36. <u>Mozambique.</u> Nothing to report.	
37. <u>Malawi.</u> 5 November 2025. The Yasme Foundation is pleased to announce a grant in support of Empowering Youth in Amateur Radio through primary school science clubs in Lilongwe, Malawi managed by youth operator Elayi Banda, 7Q7EB. The grant provides funding for material to build antennas, test instruments and training materials	

	<u>For Action</u>
<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
38. <u>Date for the 2026 Strat meeting.</u> As the AGM only takes place in May and the Booklet must be out by 2 April, it is not necessary to hold the Strat meeting too early. Preferably not over the Valentine's Day weekend. The first Strat meeting will be held on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 March 2026 at the NARC.	ZS4BS
39. <u>The SARL 100 Book.</u> The possibility to launch the SARL-100 book at the 2026 SARL Convention was discussed at length. Latest feedback is that The Team is busy working with the editing and formatting of the various chapters.	
<b>NEXT MEETINGS</b>	
40. Wednesday 10 December 2025 and Wednesday 14 January 2026	

Proposed: ZS6GUY

Seconded: ZS6GM

Date: 14 January 2026