



SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

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



Minutes of the South African Radio League Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 14 April 2018 at the Farm Inn, Silver Lakes in Pretoria.

Present

Nico van Rensburg, ZS6QL, SARL President

Members present in person: 107

Members present by proxy: 244

Dennis Green, ZS4BS, SARL Secretary

Apologies:

Dennis Wells, ZS1AU; Bryan King, ZS2SS; Roshnie Mararaj, ZR5JAS; Andrew Groome, ZS6AVG; Chris Gryffenberg, ZS6COG; Justin Porteous, ZS6JGP; Petrus Roodt, ZS6LPR and Pieter Jacobs, ZS6XT

Item	Discussion	For Action
	WELCOME	
1.1	Nico van Rensburg, ZS6QL, opened the meeting at 09:17 and welcomed everybody at the 2018 AGM. Certain administrative arrangements were explained.	
1.2	The agenda is projected on the screen.	
2.	RULES OF DEBATE	
2.1	Nico, ZS6QL presents the rules of debate. It was projected on the screen for the meeting.	
3.	DECLARATION OF QUORUM	
3.1	Colin de Villiers, ZS6COL, announced that a quorum is present at the AGM. The constitution stipulates that a 15% attendance including proxies is required to form a quorum. The SARL has 1 590 paid members with 7 Silent keys for the year. There were 107 registered members at the AGM with 244 proxies = total 351 present which is 22,2% of the membership.	
4.	REMEMBRANCE	
4.1	Dennis Green, ZS4BS, read the Remembrance for the Silent Keys and the meeting stood for a moment of silence.	
	The following radio amateurs became silent since the 2017 AGM. Ds Frans Schultz; Kees van den Linden, ZS5VDL; Chris Nortier, ZS1FA; Jimmy Momberg, ZS6APS; Jan Lengton, ZS6BBK; Ian Jaffray, ZS1IAJ; Alain Krog, ZS2AK; Joe Haarhoff, ZS1AAB; Johan Bothma, ZS6ACE; Geoff Tyler, ZR1GFT; Adriaan Jacobus Naude Vermaak, ZS6DBD; Leon Koekemoer, ZS6LX; Craig Smith, ZS5AV; Hugo Friedmann, ZS1HSF; Hans Vorster, ZS6VH; Ivo Chladek ZS6AXT; Poppie Meyer, ZS6BCP; Des Mullen, ZS5DDM; Jumelle Bruyns, ZS1JEB; Mimi Roach, ZS5YO; Bernard Crockford, ZS1BW; Wessel JR Wessels, ZS6AKY; Norman Ellor, ZS5YM; Hans Nothling, ZS1WZ; Peter Antony Crowther, ZS5PX; Trevor Scarr, ZS2AE; Scamp Porter, ex-ZS6SMP;	

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	Tony Coleman ZS5ACB, Ron Caldecott ZS6BHH, Jan Coetzee, ZS5JC; Barney van Eeden, ZS6BLL	
5.	APPROVAL OF LAST YEARS AGM MINUTES	
5.1	The minutes of the 2017 AGM were tabled for approval. The minutes were accepted, proposed by Gary Immelmann, ZS6YI, and seconded by Pieter Gaybba, ZS3PG.	
6.	PRESIDENTS REPORT	
6.1	<p>Nico, ZS6QL, presented the Presidents Report. The SARL Council had an active year with considerable success achieved on existing activities with a specific focus on financial management to ensure continuous sustainability and the strengthening of the accountability for reporting within the Treasury portfolio.</p> <p>We have reached a stage now where we have a clean slate and are able to position ourselves to promote the next level of the amateur radio service in South Africa. Overall, the SARL is in good financial condition with sufficient reserves to support the league in going forward.</p> <p>Kelley Heslop, the office administrator is doing excellent work in contributing to better our administrative services. She is also involved in the administration of the RAE and in the financial system. This is one position that is absolutely essential to the SARL. <i>(The meeting gave a round of applause for Kelley.)</i></p> <p>Councillors, portfolio managers and appointees are all volunteers with full time occupations, committing their personal time and expertise in running the SARL successfully. To maintain this level of work, the SARL is always looking for individuals to assist in running the League successfully. Should you be able to assist, please do contact the Secretary and become part of the management of this very successful organisation.</p> <p>SARL membership is growing gradually and currently sits at an average of 39% of all licences issued by ICASA. This figure is significantly better than the typical figure of around 30% in many countries. The average age of our Members is 55 with the oldest 97 and the youngest 10 years old.</p> <p>Looking at the RAE candidates over the last 8 years, one does notice a gradual drop of these members over the years. We have an obvious problem in terms of retaining Members and we need to address the issue to retain newcomers to the amateur radio service as SARL Members.</p> <p>When you join the SARL, you become part of the League's vision to strive for every Member to get involved, be active on the air and to promote the hobby to ensure its future.</p> <p>One way to ensure the future of amateur radio and the SARL is to attract more people to the amateur services, especially our younger generation.</p>	

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	<p>This is one of the main reasons for the SARL to have one of its major objectives to promote the amateur radio service amongst the youth of South Africa.</p> <p>A tremendous amount of hard work is being done by a few individuals to accomplish this and in addition to these efforts, the SARL will be hosting the IARU Region 1 Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) summer event in South Africa later this year. More on this under Youth Activities in the report.</p> <p>Amateur radio prides itself on the contribution it makes in fostering international friendships and goodwill. An excellent example was when the Cape Town radio amateurs hosted a reception at the Royal Cape Yacht Club for the 3Y0Z team. This event once again drew the attention of the international amateur fraternity and highlighted the greatness of amateur radio, including the fellowship that binds fellow radio amateurs together all over the world.</p> <p>In achieving regulatory and legislative success, Council continues to affirm the role of the SARL and strengthening the relationship with the National Regulator to protect and further the aims of amateur radio in South Africa and throughout the world and to protect the amateur radio spectrum for the use of all. More information follows in the section reporting on the work being done by the Regulatory Working Group.</p> <p>Amateur Radio has always been about innovation and integrating the latest technology, from the development of regeneration receivers in the early 1900s to current uses of digital communication modes including software-defined radio (SDR). The SARL and AMSAT SA presented various successful workshops on SDR at the NARC, in Cape Town and in Durban. The topic of the increasing RF noise floor level and WPT (Wireless Power Transfer) interference is high on the IARU Region 1 agenda and the SARL is actively involved and part of the IARU EMC Committee since the Region 1 Conference in September 2017 in Germany.</p> <p>The success of RAE sessions held during the year and the administration thereof is only possible with the dedicated work of the RAE Manager, Noel, ZR6DX, the cooperation and support from the Chief Invigilators, HF Assessors and Kelley at the SARL Admin office. Without the teamwork and commitment this will not be possible. <i>(The meeting gave a round of applause for Noel.)</i></p> <p>The news team ensures a news bulletin every week and in the background is another group of gentlemen looking after the Forum and Swop Shop Management, Website and Database Management, Awards Management, Repeater coordination, QSL bureau, Regulatory Affairs and Hamnet, to name but a few in providing the services and benefits of the SARL to our membership.</p>	

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	<p>We sincerely thank each and every one of our team of dedicated and talented volunteers with the strength to face current and future challenges in making the SARL an effective organisation.</p> <p>I would like to thank all members for your dedication to the SARL's mission in advancing the art, science and enjoyment of Amateur Radio internationally and in South Africa.</p> <p>Let us focus on the future, we know that constant change is the law of life and if we only look at the past and present, we will certainly miss the future.</p>	
6.2	Nico, ZS6QL highlighted SARL Awards, the SARL News, the ICASA liaison meetings, the YOTA 2018 event in South Africa, EMC matters.	
7.	FINANCES	
7.1	Chris Turner, ZS6GM, presented the Financial report and documentation.	
7.2	<p>It is my pleasure today, as treasurer, to report on the financial affairs of the SARL. Before I start, I would like to acknowledge the hard work, time and effort put into the League finances by Shane Bailey, ZS6W, (formerly ZS6ZSB) who embarked on the massive effort in 2016 to retrospectively examine the League finances and bring them into good order. I would also like to thank Corrie de Beer, ZS6CDB, and Eric Krebsner, ZS6ZP, for their contribution to the finance committee.</p> <p>I am pleased to report that the SARL finances are in a good order and that all outstanding issues from previous years have now been resolved. Though not part of the 2017 financial year, I am very happy to tell our members that the SARL is now officially registered with SARS as a non-profit organisation and that all PAYE issues hanging over from prior years have been resolved. During the 2016/17 financial year, Council took the steps of employing a professional accounting company to manage the day to day accounts and to take care of all the SARS legal and tax affairs at a total cost below what the League was presently paying only for an audit. The SARL Treasurer and Council now have a day to day handle on the League finances. Now let's move onto the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2017.</p>	
7.3	The Balance Sheet	
7.3.1	Please turn to page 5 of the Annual Financial Statements (AFS's) (Annexure A of this report). You will see that the Net Value of the League has increased by R 293, 534 to R 416, 055. This is a result of careful and prudent management of the League affairs by the Council in the year. Council deliberately limited expenditure to the absolute minimum to run the affairs of the League in order to stabilise the financial situation and ensure that provision was made for any unexpected surprises from previous years. I am pleased to report that Shane did his job well and that there were no	

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	<p>unexpected surprises. There has been a small increase in the Fixed Assets of R 40, 543 as a result of bringing into account, the net assets of Hamnet. Cash and Cash Equivalents, being monies held in the Money Market fund and on Fixed Deposit increased by R 388, 916 from R 811, 150 to R 1, 200,066.</p> <p>This increase in cash cancelled the reported loss of R330, 401 in the previous financial year. I shall comeback to this when addressing the Detailed Income Statement. There has been a small increase in the Trade and Other Payables of R83, 906 which I will now explain. Please refer to Annexure B on page 12 of the Annual Financial Statements. Of significance are the Accounts and Reserves, which are all interest-bearing accounts.</p>	
7.4	Detailed Income Statements	
7.4.1	<p>I shall now deal with the Income Statements, Pages 14 and 15 (Annexures C, D and E of this report) of the Annual Financial Statements which deal with the total income and expenditure of the SARL inclusive of Hamnet. At the bottom of page 14 (Annexure C (1)) you will notice the significant turnaround from a loss in the previous year of (R 330, 401) to a Surplus of R 293, 534 in the 2017 financial year. To help you compare like with like and because the 2016 comparatives include Hamnet and the “cleaning up” entries of that year, I have prepared a schedule of Income and Expenditure (Annexure D) which excludes those entries. Annexure D clearly shows the actual improvement in the operational running of the League. You will note that travel and meeting expenses have be severely curtailed because of the generosity of Councillors who have not claimed reimbursement for their expenses. A surplus of R 302, 934 was achieved 2017 compared of a deficit of R 28, 264 in 2016, a turnaround of R 331,194. Annexure E sets out how Council managed the League and achieved saving against the budget for 2017. I have excluded Hamnet from my schedules as it is not possible to budget for their activities from year to year. Paul van Spronsen, ZS1V, National Director of Hamnet and Glynn Chamberlain, ZS6GLN, National Treasurer of Hamnet are present to answer any queries that might arise. Pages 16 to 18 of the Annual Financial Statements give a detailed account of each Hamnet division.</p>	
7.4.2	Chad Mileham, ZS6OPS queried certain moneys and line items. ZS6OPS to draft a letter with his questions and send it to Council for forwarding to the Accountants	ZS6OPS
7.4.3	Shane, ZS6W queried the bad debts. Council will follow up. Council will soon be producing Quarterly Financial Reports	ZS6BOX
7.4.4	The Financial Accounts were approved, proposed by Shane Bailey, ZS6W, and seconded by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV.	
7.5	Year to Date vs Projected 2018 vs Budget 2018	

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7.5.1	I am now pleased to provide the management accounts for the first seven months of the current year. Please refer to Annexure F compared to budget. You will notice that Council has continued to keep a tight rein on the League finances as we promised our members at the 2017 AGM.	
7.5.2	Colin, ZS6COL did a presentation on the IT Matters and the web site. The slideshow is attached to the minutes	
7.6	Budget 2019	
7.6.1	Please refer to Annexure G which sets out the proposed budget for the 2018/19 financial year. You will notice that we have budgeted to spend the carry over with the specific purpose of promoting the growth of amateur radio and SARL membership in the 2018/19 financial year.	
7.6.2	Dave Reece, ZS1DFR, asked about the maintenance of the new web site. ZS6GM indicates that this line item will continue.	
7.6.3	Gary, ZS6YI, proposed that R 20 000 from the Amateur Radio Development budget be moved to the YOTA 2018 Budget. The proposal is accepted unanimously. Shane, ZS6W proposed that the monies not used for YOTA 2018 comes back to the SARL and is kept for Youth development.	ZS6BOX
7.6.4	Shane, ZS6W queried the payment of the SAGE software. The payment must be made by the SARL.	ZS6BOX
7.6.5	Shane, ZS6W proposed that the Budget be split into an operational budget and a capital budget. The meeting accepted the proposal.	ZS6BOX
7.6.5	The budget is accepted by the meeting. Proposed by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV and seconded by Gary Immelmann, ZS6YI	
7.7	Conclusion	
7.7.1	<p>As reported in these accounts Council has taken firm control of the League finances and I am confident that the controls and accounting systems introduced over the last 18 months will provide a much clearer month to month visibility of the state of the League.</p> <p>As I mentioned in my introduction, Council took the decision to outsource the bookkeeping and accounting functions to HisWay Professional Bookkeeping Services. The accounting and audit fees together cost less than the past audit fees but provide clean month by month management accounts. The actual bookkeeping is cloud based using Sage One accounting software which is included in the monthly fees. This means there are no local computer systems or software to maintained or updated. Once again, my thanks to Shane, Corrie, and Eric for their invaluable input and to my fellow Councillors for their dedication and contribution to the SARL and to Amateur Radio as a whole. My thanks also the Maureen Brand of the former League auditors. A special thanks to Glynn, ZS6GLN, of Hamnet South for his contribution and for volunteering to join the finance committee. The SARL operates in accordance with</p>	

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	internationally accepted accounting standards. So, in conclusion, I am appealing to a younger member of our fraternity that has accounting experience, please consider stepping up to take over the Treasurer role. In the meantime, I pledge my continued support for the SARL and the Amateur Service.	
7.8	<u>Receive and ratify the proposed subscriptions for year 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.</u> Proposed by Sid Tyler, ZS5AYC and seconded Etienne Naude, ZS6EFN	
7.9	<u>Appointment of Auditors.</u> Council proposes that C J L Du Plessis Inc (Practice No 902388) be reappointed as the Auditors for 2018/2019. Proposed by Tjerk Lammers, ZS1J and seconded by Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT.	
8.	MOTIONS	
8.1	<u>Motion PTA2018 001 Corrections to the Constitution and Rules.</u> Proposed by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV and seconded by Etienne Naude, ZS6EFN. Votes For: 351 Against: 0 Abstain: 0. The motion is carried.	ZS4BS
8.2	<u>Motion PTA2018 002 Change to rules with regards to membership of the SARL.</u> Proposed by Tjerk Lammers, ZS1J and seconded by Jan Botha, ZS4JAN. Votes For: 351 Against: 0 Abstain: 0. The motion is carried.	ZS4BS
8.3	<u>Motion PTA2018 003 The Finances of HAMNET and other trusts and reserves.</u> Proposed by Dave Reece, ZS1DFR and seconded by Deon Coetzee, ZR1DE. Votes For: 351 Against: 0 Abstain: 0. The motion is carried.	ZS6BOX ZS4BS
8.4	<u>Motion PTA2018 004 Structure of SARL National Convention.:</u>	
8.4.1	ZS6W proposed the Amendment “ that the SARL budget an amount of R 25 000 for the symposium from its reserve funds and that the balance of the cost be recovered from sponsorships and registration fees; ” Proposed by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV and seconded by Gary Immelmann, ZS6YI. Votes For: 351 Against: 0 Abstain: 0. The motion is carried.	ZS6BOX
8.5	<u>Motion PTA2018 005 Proposal for Revision and Update of the WAZS Award.</u> Council indicated that it was willing to withdraw the motion. Seconded by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV	
8.6	<u>Motion PTA2018 006 Format standard for the distribution of minutes of meetings held.</u>	
8.6.1	Colin, ZS6COL proposed an amendment to the motion. Introduction The purpose of this motion is to provide a Format Standard for the distribution of minutes of meetings held of any AGM, SGM and Council meetings. Background	ZS4BS

Item	Discussion	For Action
	<p>Various published minutes are often unsatisfactory as they lack sufficient detail and do not include required reference material.</p> <p>Recommendations.</p> <p>It is resolved that all future AGM, SGM and Council minutes compiled for distribution to and for the benefit of the League's members for record keeping purposes shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record sufficient detail, even when summarised, pertaining to all points, motions and discussions highlighting all key information which provide members a clear understanding of proceedings. 2. Where possible be published as a single PDF formatted file including all referenced documents including all other committee meeting minutes and portfolio reports. Where this is not possible the referenced material may be published as a clearly referenced addendum. 3. Matters of a sensitive nature such as discussions about disciplinary matters, sensitive negotiations not yet finalised etc must be referenced as having been discussed – but the detail may be omitted when justified. 4. All minutes to be published on the member area on the SARL Website within 15 business days following ratification. 	
8.6.2	The proposal was seconded by Alan Exton, ZS6E. Votes For: 351 Against: 0 Abstain: 0. The amendment to the Motion was carried.	
8.7	<u>Motion PTA2018 007 A tale of two cities and harry potter.</u> Votes For: 0 Against: 351 Abstain: 0. The motion was last.	
8.8	<u>Motion PTA2018 008 Has SARL inadvertently avoided payment of Tax and has SARL exposed the members to a Tax Liability?</u> The motion was withdrawn	
8.9	<u>Motion PTA2018 009. Transfer of Accumulated Savings.</u> The motion was withdrawn	
10.	ELECTION OF COUNCIL	
10.1	<p>The following Councillors are in the middle of their two-year term of office which ends at the 2019 SARL AGM, Nico van Rensburg, ZS6QL; Etienne Naude, ZS6EFN; Leon Uys, ZR6N; Cliff Smyth, ZS6BOX and Geoff Levey, ZS6C.</p> <p>By 31 January 2018, nominations for the five vacancies had been received from Louw Erasmus, ZS6LME, Chris Turner, ZS6GM, Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT, Dennis Green, ZS4BS and Glynn Chamberlain, ZS6GLN.</p> <p>As there are five nominations for the five vacancies, the above nominees are elected to serve on the SARL Council from 14 April 2018 until the 2020 AGM.</p>	
10.2	The above election was ratified by a proposed from Gary Immelmann ZS6YI and seconded by Brian Jones, ZS6BV	

Item	Discussion	For Action
11.	DISCUSSION	
11.1	<u>SARL Strategic Focus</u> . ZS6GM presented a strategic focus with three distinct focal points for the future of the amateur radio service to protect and to ensure continued access to the amateur radio spectrum allocated.	
11.1.1	It is most important to raise the profile and awareness of amateur radio in the public domain including industry. This could be achieved by promoting the amateur radio service in industry and important get our clubs involved in reaching this objective. Clubs should make this part of their planning activities and assist the league to become successful with this objective.	
11.1.2	To ensure a future for the amateur radio service it is imperative to involve the youth. It is critical to the future of the amateur radio service to recruit new blood and reverse the downward trend of dwindling numbers. Youth development should be a focal point in our clubs and the necessary funds are to be made available to support these initiatives. Let it be a challenge to clubs to raise the profile and awareness of amateur radio in their communities, run the RAE courses and start with activities to introduce new people to the joys of amateur radio.	
12	OTHER MATTERS	
12.1	Leon Lessing, ZS6LMG, requested that the SARL engage with the Civil Aviation authorities to lower or waiver the regulations on payloads carried by balloons so that school groups can be encouraged to build and fly smaller items like can-sats.	
12.2	Tamsanga Semela, ZS6MOZ, asked that teachers also be involved with the youth development as they can interface between parents and learners.	
12.3	Noel Hammond, ZR6DX, the RAE Manager asked that Clubs get more involved with the RAE process – RAE Instructors, HF Assessors, exam venues, etc.	Clubs
12.4	Cliff Box, ZS6BOX, suggested that the League change its financial year, as at present reporting was done 9 months after the end of the financial year. Shane Bailey, ZS6W, said that with the new quarterly reports this was not a problem anymore.	
12.5	Grant Southley, ZS1GS, asked that the SARL Council and the SARL HAMNET National Director and Provincial Directors meet and discuss matters of mutual interest.	
12.6	Alan Exton, ZS6E, noted that SARL HAMNET does very good work and he also encouraged members to get involved with the Maritime Mobile Net which is also doing excellent work.	
12.7	Hans van de Groendaal, ZS6AKV, proposed a vote of thanks to Nico, ZS6QL and the Council for the running of the AGM as well as the work done the past year. It was accepted with a unanimous vote.	
13.	THE 2019 SARL AGM	

Item	Discussion	For Action
13.1	Proposals for the 2019 AGM were received from the Bo-Karoo ARC for Kimberley and the Boland ARC for Cape Town. Both Clubs will submit proposals and an electronic vote will be carried out.	
12.2	The meeting closed at 13:38.	

Approval of the Minutes

Proposed: ZS6YI

Seconded: ZS4JAN

Date: 13 April 2019