

SOUTHERN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (SBA)

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

Date: Monday, 16th March 2026

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:50 PM

Location: Sandringham Basketball Stadium

1. Attendance

Present:

- Gerrik Gratz (Vice-President, Acting Chair)
- Jason Shugg (Secretary)
- Michelle Scalzi
- Caroline Tuohey
- Paul Jasniach
- Rachel Dolan
- Marty Pask
- Craig Weir (CEO)
- Lisa Curtis (Board Appointee)

Apologies:

- Phil McFarlane (President/Chair) – Travelling with work

The meeting was chaired by Gerrik Gratz in the absence of Phil McFarlane. The meeting commenced at 7:00 PM.

2. Welcome & Formalities

2.1 Introduction of New Board Appointee

The Chair welcomed Lisa Curtis to her first Board meeting as a Board Appointee. A round of introductions was conducted for the benefit of Ms. Curtis, with each member briefly outlining their role, tenure, and professional background. Ms. Curtis introduced herself, detailing her professional experience as a Chartered Accountant and Company Secretary, and her extensive involvement in community sport, including as a player, coach, and committee member at various levels.

2.2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

The Chair called for any declarations of conflict of interest. None were declared.

2.3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.

M. Scalzi proposed three minor amendments which were agreed to by the Board and implemented.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting with the proposed amendments.

- **Moved:** Michelle Scalzi
- **Seconded:** Rachel Dolan
- **Outcome:** Carried.

2.4 Action Register Review

The open items on the Action Register were reviewed.

1. **Process for Past Player Contribution Recognition:** C. Tuohey volunteered to lead this item. She will review the original correspondence and prepare a proposal on criteria and next steps for the next Board meeting.
2. **SBA Strategy & Vision Progress Review:** G. Gratz noted this would be addressed under Agenda Item 6.
3. **Leadership/Team Culture Consultant:** R. Dolan provided an update on her research.
 - **Discussion:** R. Dolan has consulted with a senior and respected sporting coach (from the AFLW), who is available to run a two-hour workshop for coaches focusing on coaching philosophy.
 - **Decision:** The Board agreed that the concept is valuable in the right setting
 - **Action:** The CEO and relevant Board members will socialize the idea of running this session in the future. Coaching Director will attend the May board meeting to talk through progress and coaching plan for the year ahead.

3. Decisions (Offline)

No decisions were made offline.

4. Operations Report

C. Weir (CEO) presented the Operations Report.

- **Domestic Program:** Registrations are closed and grading is complete. Invoicing is finalised for seniors and will be completed for juniors by the end of the week.
- **Coaching Clinics:** New clinics for domestic clubs have commenced, with a successful first session attracting 20 coaches.
- **NBL1 Program:**
 - **Women:** The roster is near-complete, with one final player to be signed.
 - **Men:** The team is facing challenges due to the late withdrawal of two key players. The coaching staff is exploring replacement options.
- **VJBL Program:** The SBA has achieved a club record with 11 teams qualifying for the Victorian Championship (VC) division, making it the top-performing association in the state on this measure.
- **Outreach & Development:** All programs (Cubs, Future Sabres, Academy, Shooting Schools) are running well with strong participation.
- **Facilities & Merchandise:**
 - Court 7 backboards and rings have been successfully replaced. The remaining three courts are scheduled for replacement during the April school holidays.
 - Repairs to the court skirting are scheduled to commence on April 10th.
 - NBL1 supporter apparel has been ordered and will be available for purchase at a new retail shop located in the old foyer, launching at the first home game.

4.1 Child Safety & Member Protection

- **Incidents:** C. Weir reported on several member protection matters:
 - There has been a number of serious incidents recently. This highlights the need for a review of security protocols due to ongoing poor behaviour by parents and spectators.
- **Safeguarding You Platform:**

- **Discussion:** C. Weir noted that the voluntary uptake of the Safeguarding You reporting platform by domestic club Child Safety Officers (CSOs) has been insufficient for ensuring consistent and transparent oversight.
 - **Motion:** To make the use of the Safeguarding You platform and attendance at network meetings mandatory for all domestic club CSOs.
 - **Outcome:** The Board unanimously agreed, and this will be implemented as a formal requirement.
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5. Finance & Audit

P. Jasniach presented the financial report for the period ending 28th February 2026.

- **Financial Performance:** The association is tracking well against budget. Key revenue streams from development programs (small group workouts, camps, shooting schools) are performing significantly above budget. The year-to-date surplus is approximately \$90k, with a healthy cash position.
 - **FY27 Budget Process:** P. Jasniach outlined a proposed timeline for the FY27 budget preparation. This will involve Board-led "deep dives" into key revenue and cost centres (Canteen, Retail, Commercial) between March and May, with a draft budget to be presented at the May Board meeting. The Board endorsed this process.
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6. Strategy Progress & Policy Review

G. Gratz presented a recap of the SBA 2025-2027 Strategic Plan.

- **Discussion:** The Chair reiterated the vision "To be the leading basketball association in Australia from grassroots to advanced athletes." and reviewed the foundational pillars (e.g. Leadership, Governance & Integrity, People & Culture) and strategic focus areas (e.g., Sustainable Growth, Performance on Court). The document is designed to be a detailed, actionable plan.
 - **Action:** All Board members are to re-read the Strategic Plan and the associated check-in document ahead of the next meeting to facilitate a formal progress review and to inform the FY27 budget priorities.
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7. Other Business

- **April Meeting Agenda:** J. Shugg confirmed that the upcoming agendas will allocate time for a presentation from the Coaching Director and a discussion on referee protection initiatives.
 - **Meeting Schedule:** The Board discussed the timing of future meetings to avoid clashes with school holidays. J. Shugg will circulate options and confirm availability.
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8. Meeting Close

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:50 PM.

Next Meeting: To be confirmed, 13th April 2026.