



VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)

"Honour the dead but fight like hell for the living"

ABN 45 827 964 391

MINUTES

Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (Queensland Branch) Inc

State Management Committee Meeting conducted at Redcliffe RSL on Saturday 15th May 2010

1. OPENING

The President called the meeting to order and declared the State Management Committee Meeting open at 1030. This was followed by a few moments silence for fallen and departed comrades followed by the Ode.

John Smith then introduced the President of the Redcliffe Sub Branch, Charles Parsons, accompanied by Nev Cullen, president of the Redcliffe RSL, who thanked and welcomed the delegates to his home base Sub Branch of Redcliffe

2. ATTENDANCE

2.1 State Executive

President:	John Smith, OAM, JP (Qual)
Senior Vice President:	Greg Norris
Junior Vice President:	Keith Fraser
Secretary:	Carl Boy'e
Treasurer:	David Fiechtner

2.2 Delegates.

Bribie Island	Greg Norris
Brisbane North	Peter Thorne
Gympie	Len Herron
Townsville	Sheila Smith (Proxy)
Redcliffe	Bill Stowers
Cool Tweed	Bruce Weir
Sunshine Coast	David Fiechtner
John Power	Logan and Albert (delete)
South Burnett	Trevour Sanderson
Hervey Bay	Geoff Gayler
Logan/Albert(delete)	John Power

2.3 invited Guests

Nil

2.4 Visitors

Bribie Island	Sue Norris
Gympie	Denise Fraser
Brisbane North	John Skubis
Redcliffe RSL	Nev Cullen
Redcliffe	Charles Parsons

3. APOLOGIES

Dot & Bill Hewat –	Cooloola Coast
Rob & Gwen Moseley –	Bribie Island
Lyn & Barry Spelta –	Burdekin
Pat Crowe –	South Burnett
Jim Shaw –	Brisbane North

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS STATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion: That the minutes of State Management Committee Meeting held at Hervey Bay on Saturday 27th February 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the last State Management meeting.

Proposed	Secretary	Seconded	Logan/ Albert (Delete)
Carried		Resolution:	10/10

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The President informed delegates that if there was any business arising from the previous minutes; those subjects are probably already listed for discussion on the agenda for this meeting.

Peter Thorne (Brisbane North) questioned the President regarding the outstanding severance pay of the Angus House Manager. John Smith replied that a reply has not yet been received even though the Treasurer has been following the matter up recently.

6. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL STATE AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the State Congress and AGM held at Hervey Bay on Saturday 27th February 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the State AGM and Congress.

Proposed	Secretary	Seconded	Coolangatta/Tweed
Carried		Resolution	11/10

7. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE STATE AGM MINUTES

Nil

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Motion: That the Inwards Correspondence be received and the Outwards Correspondence be endorsed with the action taken.

Proposed	Secretary	Seconded	Gympie
Carried		Resolution:	12/10

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no business arising.

The President confirmed the Secretary's information that almost all of the Incoming Correspondence has been received by e-mail, which has then been directly forwarded to Sub Branches by e-mail also.

The Secretary advised the delegates that there was a need for Sub Branches and delegates to update their e-mail address to the Secretary frequently to ensure their addresses remain up-to-date.

This directive will also be included in the next 'O Group' Newsletter which will be available on the State Web-site.

10. TREASURER'S REPORT

The State Treasurer gave a full report and this was handed out to all present. A copy of all of the Treasurer's Report, statements and balance sheet are attached at the end of these Minutes.

Motion: That the Treasurers Report be accepted, and **all (delete)** that all lawful accounts be paid.

Proposed	State Treasurer	Seconded	Bribie Island
Carried		Resolution	13/10

11. BUSINESS ARISING FROM TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer advised the delegates that the State Executive has determined that we should hang on to Remembrance House until the commercial market improves before contemplating selling Remembrance House as there is a very real problem with white ants in the premises.

Angus House books have now been finalised, and any funds remaining from that venture could soon be transferred into State funds.

Brisbane North questioned the final legal expenses from Remembrance House which was answered by the Treasurer.

The National Congress expenses were explained by the Treasurer. The President explained the background to the location of National Council and Congress meetings. In previous occasions there has been some funding forthcoming towards National meetings; however there has been none for this year. Funding for National meetings will be listed for discussion at the National Congress at Caloundra later in May of this year.

Several members expressed the view that eastern states, particularly Queensland, are faced with, what seems to be, a disproportionate amount of expense towards the National Congress as against other states, and National.

Members believe that it would not be fair to load VVAA members with an increase in capitation fees in order to fund future National Congress meetings, so, unless there is a change towards more of a 'user-pays' system, Queensland is unlikely to volunteer to host future Congress meetings.

The President said that the State Executive would be seeking ideas from Queensland Sub Branches on how we can improve Congress, and provide funding for future Congresses.

With regard to the PLI Account, the Treasurer explained that while State has put aside some funds towards any PLI excess claims, Sub Branches should have their own funds put aside to cover these

claims. With that in mind, the Treasurer requested approval from the members to transfer excess funds from the State's PLI account to an 'on-call' account.

Motion: That the Treasurer be authorized to transfer all surplus funds, including that which is held in the "PLI" account, to an 'on-call' account.

Proposed	State Treasurer	Seconded	Brisbane North
Carried		Resolution	14/10

12. REPORTS

12.1 ACCOMMODATION REPORT Zac's Place David Fiechtner

The Car (formerly from Angus House) – The State Executive has asked for a submission from Townsville Sub Branch to keep/sell the car. Following any submission from Townsville, the State Executive will then decide upon whether to sell or keep the car.

It was stated that one of the reasons for Zac's Place requiring a car was for welfare work in outback north Queensland areas. It seems that such welfare work (outback Queensland areas) is not being carried out these days.

With regard to Zac's Place, the State Executive is still waiting on feedback from Queensland Sub Branches as to whether members wish Queensland to remain in the business of supported accommodation. The State Executive require Queensland Sub Branches to provide their ideas regarding Zac's Place and supported accommodation, to the Secretary, in writing.

12.2. STATE ADVOCATE'S AND TIP REPORTS: Helena Smith

There is no report from the State Advocate, Helena Smith.

12.2a VITA Matters John Smith

John Smith reported that in relation to Welfare Practitioners and who can act as a practitioner, provided the sponsoring ESO is satisfied with the level of training undertaken by a person, the sponsoring ESO can then authorize that person to act as a welfare practitioner.

With regard to Refresher Training, there was a rumour circulating that unless the refresher training has been conducted by "TIP trainers", such training will not be recognized. This information is incorrect. Within the VVAA, providing the sponsoring ESO is satisfied with the qualifications held by the trainer conducting refresher training, such refresher training courses can be recognized by the sponsoring ESO.

A question arose as to whether an authorization letter for welfare officers should be given by the sponsoring ESO (VVAA State body) or by the member's own Sub Branch. The President felt that this information was not correct, however he will check it out and then have the Sub Branches informed of the correct procedures.

With respect of the term "Independent Case Officer", Case Officers work independent of DVA so this is probably where the term may have originated. (May need some fill-in by JP)

12.3 QFE: John Smith/ Greg Norris

Need report from Greg

12.4 VVCS: David Fiechtner

Need report from David

12.5 OPERATION LIFE: Keith Fraser

No report

Keith is to apply to attend the next seminar in June in Brisbane

12.6 FAMILY HEALTH STUDY: Ken O'Brien

There is no report from Ken O'Brien.

12.7 ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE: John Smith

During President's Report

12.8 STATE CONSULTATIVE FORUM: John Smith

Next meeting is to be held on Thursday 27th May 2010

PSA blood tests

This matter was spoken about and the information is that apparently QML are charging vets for any PSA blood test carried in excess of one per year. From DVA – They will pay for these extra blood tests provided that the doctor can prove a clinical need

Robotic Prostate Surgery

It appears that there is Robotic Surgery procedure for Prostate whereby the intrusion is kept to a minimum and recovery time is vastly reduced but it costs more than normal or Key Hole Surgery so therefore it is not covered for payment however once again if the doctor proves a clinical need then DVA will pay. To prove the clinical need it must be more than two lines

Qld Go Card

This matter was raised and referred to the State Government. It appears that TPI using their red warrants are being charged an extra amount to use the warrant and get a paper ticket (example Caboolture to Brisbane using the Go Card is about \$10.80 but tpi using warrants are billed \$15.80 to get a paper ticket. There is a concession Go card available but it does not give the holder free travel like TPI have

12.9 PRESIDENT'S REPORT: John Smith

The President tendered his two-page report which is attached to these Minutes.

13. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Motion: That all reports be accepted.

Proposed: Redcliffe

Seconded: Hervey Bay

Carried

Resolution: 15/10

The President then ordered a break for 5-10 minutes for delegates to obtain refreshments.

14. SPECIAL BUSINESS

14.1 NATIONAL CONGRESS

14.1(a) ELECTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

President: Ron Coxon and Ken Foster have been nominated.

The President explained that, according to the requirements of the National Constitution, it would seem that the nomination of Ken Foster for the post of National President is invalid and cannot be supported. Consequently, the nomination of **Ron Coxon** for the position of National President is supported by the Queensland Branch Management Committee.

Vice President: Dave McCann, Brian Harper, John Smith, Paul Coppock

Again, the nomination of Paul Coppock for Vice President is invalid; therefore the nominations of **John Smith** and **Dave McCann** are supported.

Secretary: **Ken Foster** is the only nomination and is supported.

Treasurer: Rob Cox and Jan Properjohn – **Rob Cox** is supported.

14.1(b) NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

ACT moves that the following amendment to the VVAA National Constitution be adopted:

S. 5 to now read

“The statement of objects and this constitution may be altered, rescinded or added to only by a special resolution at a National Congress, a National Council or an Extra Ordinary Meeting of the National Council. Such a special resolution to be preceded by a Notice of Motion lodged with the National Secretary not less than sixty days prior to the proposed meeting.”

The rationale for this amendment is to replace the up to twelve month time frame between the need for the amendment becoming known, with one, more in keeping with timeliness.

After discussion, delegates determined to support this amendment.

14.1(c) NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

ACT moves that the following amendment to the VVAA National Constitution be adopted:

S 26 e: delete the words “The nominee must be present at the meeting.”

The rationale for this amendment is that in this age of modern communication a nominee will be available to formally accept the nomination by telephone or the like, and thus the nominator will “be present” to answer questions about the nominee.

Following discussion, this proposed amendment is not supported by this Branch.

14.1(d) NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

ACT moves that the following amendment to the VVAA National Constitution be adopted:

S.23 replace “Subject to this Constitution, four members present, in person and entitled to vote, shall constitute a quorum.” with

“Subject to this Constitution, seventy five per cent of members present in person and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.”

S.25 e replace “Subject to this Constitution four members present in person and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum” with

“Subject to this Constitution, seventy five per cent of members present in person and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.”

The rationale for this amendment is that VVAA national meetings are held with democratic representation of the ordinary membership present.

Following discussion, this proposed amendment is not supported by Queensland Branch.

14.1(e) PROPOSAL BY TASMANIA FOR VIETNAM VETERANS DAY – 2011

The Proposal for Discussion

That the VVAA, together with representatives of the HMAS Hobart and HMAS Perth Associations, form a special committee to co ordinate a national commemoration of RAN participation in Operation Sea Dragon.

Background

It was recently brought to the attention of Tasmania Branch with a strong suggestion that the VVAA should take steps to support a special emphasis being given to the RAN involvement in the Vietnam War on Vietnam Veterans Day 2011. The year 2011 has no particular anniversary significance relative to this suggestion.

Unlike the Army, the RAN did not participate in specific battles such as Long Tan or Coral / Balmoral, just as this suggestion does not intend to detract from the significance of those events, or their commemoration on the day.

The popular conception of the RAN involvement is that (and I quote an Army source from a conversation heard late last year), ‘Well they either provided the bus service, or sat 50 miles out to sea and fired a few rounds’. In fairness to this particular army source, Navy office itself also concedes almost a complete lack of awareness on the roles of the RAN in Operation Sea Dragon.

Operation Sea Dragon was a maritime operation mounted in response to the 1966 Tet Offensive, and remained in effect from December 1966 until November 1968 when the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff ordered a cessation to all aggressive activities in North Vietnam. Both HMAS Hobart and HMAS Perth had been deployed well north of the DMZ in the Gulf of Tonkin and played a pivotal role in attacking enemy targets in North Vietnam, often only a few hundred kilometers or so from Hanoi itself.

While on station in Northern Sea Dragon both ships received enemy fire on many occasions causing mainly superficial shrapnel damage. On one occasion Perth was hit, sustaining structural damage, and 7 casualties, while the Hobart was hit by ‘Friendly Fire’, losing two crew KIA. On 10 October 1968 Perth received more than 30 enemy rounds from shore batteries.

The participation and effectiveness of both Hobart and Perth in Operation Sea Dragon was recognized by the USN with both ships being awarded USN Meritorious Unit Commendations and Perth also receiving a USN Meritorious Unit Citation.

Vice Admiral David Leach who was then Captain of HMAS Perth is supportive of the idea, believing also that the roles actually played by Hobart and Perth in Northern Sea Dragon are

deserving of special recognition and commemoration as an integral part of Vietnam Veterans Day Commemorations.

Following discussion, this proposed amendment is not supported by Queensland Branch.

14.1(f) MILITARY SUPERANNUATION

The following document was received by email early March 2010 from the VVAA Queensland president, with a request that the matter of military superannuation be added to the congress agenda for discussion.

A matter which Queensland Branch believes most of us should be vitally interested in, is the current situation regarding Military Superannuation. There are a number of problems associated with this

Indexation

As you are aware there has been a concerted effort made to ensure that the indexation of Military Superannuation be changed to come into line with all other schemes and pensions. Currently the military super schemes, DFRB AND DFRDB etc are only indexed according to CPI but just about all others are indexed to CPI, MTAW or PBLI. Most government reviews etc have stated categorically that the CPI indexing is out of date and should no longer be used

Taxation

As you may be aware in a recent budget the government announced that pensioners over 60 would not pay tax on their super, however what the government did not announce, was the Mil Super schemes were not included because they were not self funded. DFRDB and DFRB were self funded until Paul Keating closed down the DFRDB etc and put the money into consolidated revenue in about 1993.

Commutation

As you may be aware when a service person retired from the forces after doing a minimum of 20 years they were entitled to comsuper under the DFRDB and DFRB. Also when a person retired they could commute 4 years of pension into a lump sum; however your pension would be decreased by an amount of money necessary to pay back that amount, using a person's notional life span, in my day that was about 70. What happens in reality is that the reduced amount DOES NOT CHANGE even when you reach the notional age so therefore you keep paying back so therefore you are paying back more than you had received

Spouse Benefit

At the moment if you are on DFRDB/DFRB and you are married and you die your spouse gets 62.5% of your pension for the rest of their lives. If a Parliamentarian is married and they die and are entitled to super, their wife gets 82.5% of their super

Amalgamation of all Super Schemes under one umbrella

At the moment the senate is holding an enquiry into a proposed bill to amalgamate all super schemes under one umbrella and that includes all Civvy and Military schemes. The government is proposing a board of some ten members, 5 appointed by the government, 3 by the ACTU and 2 by CDF. The chair will be nominally approved by Minister for finance, Lindsay Tanner, need we say more. We need to impress on people that the military veterans have a special status and we have a very unique nature of service, in that when we sign on, we forfeit our Civil rights and have to do as we are told which includes going to war, moving every couple of years, children changing schools regularly. We need a board of our own. We should agree that all the mil super boards should be amalgamated but not with civvies.

(Currently Queensland Branch believes that the Bill has been withdrawn, thanks to the work of the DFWA and RSL and other interested ESO's and individuals. I think it is to be tabled again in May)

After discussion, delegates determined to support this view.

14.1(g) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DUTY STATEMENTS

Authority: VVAA Policy Handbook GE 012

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

To represent the association at a national level or alternatively appoint his representative.

To chair all meetings of the National Executive, National Council and National Congress

To host all function of the association at a national level.

To oversee and supervise all operations of the National Executive

To appoint portfolio managers on an annual basis

To supervise portfolio managers.

To appoint or nominate representatives of the association

To prepare discussion papers and reports related to allotted portfolios

To prepare major discussion papers and recommendations to the National Council.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

To understudy and support the National President

To represent the national President as required.

To manage portfolio's as directed by the National President

To prepare discussion papers and reports related to the allotted portfolios

NATIONAL SECRETARY

To establish and maintain a principle place of administration for the association.

To record, distribute and maintain records of all meetings of the National council and National Congress

To prepare agenda for all meetings of the National council and National Congress

To establish and maintain a register of members of the association, and provide copies of that register for the records of the public officer as required.

To establish and maintain a register of all branches and sub branches of the association

To maintain a register of members of the national executive and national council

To receive record and distribute all correspondence related to the association.

To manage or supervise the manager of the association web site.

To maintain the associations constitution and policy handbook

To prepare discussion papers and reports related to the allotted portfolios

NATIONAL TREASURER

To establish and maintain books of accounts for the association at a national level.

To issue receipts for monies received and promptly deposit those monies in an approved bank accounts.

To pay all approved accounts as soon as reasonable possible from the approved bank accounts

To supervise and record the financial operations of the associations merchandising manager.

To ensure all accounts of the association as a national level are audited annually.

To present an audited financial report of the associations finances at a national level to the national Congress.

To maintain a register of all assets and liabilities of the association at a national level.

To prepare discussion papers and reports related to the allotted portfolios.

Note: It is recommended that this list of duty statements be adopted as an appendix to the reference policy GE 012.

14.1(h) POLICY HANDBOOK UPDATE

Proposal to update the policy handbook in line with the Policies approved at the last National Council meeting.

After discussion, delegates accepted to support this proposal.

14.1(i) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE TRAVEL EXPENSES

For some time there has been a degree of confusion on reimbursement of travel expenses for members of the national executive. Policy handbook FI003 "Travel costs for newly elected members of the national executive" only covers a broad policy, however the question of how, and at what rate, remain unanswered.

Recommendation One:

Where air, rail or sea travel is involved the members is to be reimbursed the actual cost on presentation of a receipt, ticket or other reasonable documents.

Recommendation Two:

Where accommodation and meals are involved, reimbursement is to be at a rate equal to the current rate applied under the Department of Veterans Affairs Repatriation Transport Scheme for Travel, accommodation and meals.

Recommendation Three:

Where a member uses their own motor vehicle, reimbursement is to be at a rate equal to the current rate applied for a private vehicle under the Department of Veterans Affairs Repatriation Transport Scheme for Travel, accommodation and meals.

After discussion, delegates elected to support the recommendations.

14.1(j) REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION - MAY 2010

The association operates under the model rules as defined by the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 1984 since the change of name in 2009. This creates a number of difficulties particularly in relation to our income tax exemption status with the Australian Tax Office.

During 2009, a discussion paper was distributed, with a number of suggested amendments to the constitution, which relates to the National Council which, at this stage, is an unincorporated body within the association, this in itself causes no administrative difficulties, however it gives a base for a simple solution to what can become a problem in the near future.

Recommendation One

Amend the title of the "Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia National Council Incorporated" to read "Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Incorporated". **Supported.**

Recommendation Two

In Para 1 a of the subject constitution, delete the words "National Council". **Supported.**

Recommendation Three

Formally accept the subject constitution as that of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia. **Supported.**

Recommendation Four

Formally accept the subject constitution as binding on the National Council. **Supported.**

Recommendation Five

In the subject constitution at Para 6.d, Delete the existing wording and insert in its place “The assets and income of the organization shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned objects, and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organization, except as bona fide compensation for services rendered, or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation

The Association must maintain for the principal purpose a fund (Gift Fund) to which gifts of money or property for that purpose may be made.

If the gift fund is wound up or if the endorsement of the Association as a deductible gift recipient is revoked, any surplus assets of the gift fund remaining after payment of liabilities attributable to it, shall be transferred to a fund, authority or institution to which income tax deductible gifts can be made.

The Fund is subject to the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act 1981 and the resolutions of the management committee of the Association”.

Requirement of the ATO – **Supported**

Recommendation Six

In the subject constitution, at Para 11 B, delete the existing wording and insert in its place “In the event of the VVAA being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution, and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, shall be transferred to another organization with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.

In the event of the VVAA being wound up, any surplus assets remaining after the payment of the VVAA liabilities shall be transferred to another organization in Australia which is a public benevolent institution for the purpose of any Commonwealth taxation Act.”

Requirement of the ATO – **Supported**

Recommendation Seven

That as a lower priority, the following amendments to the constitution be considered. For ease of management it is suggested they be treated as separate amendments.

Paragraph 2.a. Delete the wording – “member” or “members” means two people from each State Branch who satisfy r13, and who are:- (a) The President of a State Branch, or their appointed representative and, (b) a Delegate of a State Branch.

Insert in its place “the National Council shall consist of the National Executive and the President of each state branch, or his Representative.” **Supported.**

Paragraph 4. Delete the existing paragraph and insert in its place the wording “To represent, support, and assist, as required all Vietnam Veterans, their spouse, partners’ descendants and dependants.” **Supported.**

Add the following Paragraph 12.a “member of the National Council: Defined as being the National Executive and President of each State Branch or their appointed representative authorised to represent the opinion of, and vote as directed by the ordinary members within the respective State Branches. **Supported**

Renumber the remaining sub paragraphs of paragraph 12. **Supported**

Paragraph 22 delete “members” and replace with “President or his representative”. **Supported**

Paragraph 23, delete the entire paragraph. **Supported.** Common seals are no longer used.

Paragraph 25.k. delete the words “For the purpose of this sub clause, “Member” means a member appointed pursuant to sub-clause (e) of this clause”. **Supported**

Paragraph 25.n. Delete the second sentence of the paragraph and replace with “Proxy may be held by a member of the National Executive or any member of the National Council” and delete the words “National Council “in the first two instances from the proxy form where it appears.

Renumber the entire constitution as required. **Supported**

Summary

If amendments 1 to 6 are not adopted the association risks losing the current income tax exemptions and possibly other benefits allowed by the Australian Taxation Office. Other amendments can overcome a number of the perceived difficulties raised over the past years however other amendments may be forthcoming from the state branches, in any case these recommendations will go a long way to overcoming what have been seen as administrative and constitutional difficulties. Recommendations One to Six are necessary to overcome what will become a problem after May 2010, recommendation Seven is not as urgent but would assist in moving forward to a smooth administration.

14.1(k) POLICY ON ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

On a number of occasions in the past, it has been noted that there is a degree of confusion concerning the process of electing a National Executive of the Association.

Historically there have been 16 votes, that is, two from each branch.

The election of the President, Secretary and Treasurer are straight forward, and is normally a simple majority vote produces a result.

The confusion appears to arise when there are more than two nominees for the two Vice President positions. To avoid confusion and dissent, it is recommended that the following process be adopted as the association’s future policy.

Where there are three or more nominees for an executive position, a vote is to be taken for the first position of Vice President, to be decided on a simple majority. If that process results in a tied vote, a further vote is to be taken between the tied nominees, until a simple majority is reached.

A further vote is then taken between the unelected nominees, in order to determine the second position of Vice President by a simple majority, in the event of a further tied vote; a further vote is to be taken between the tied nominees, until a simple majority is reached. **Not Supported**

15. ADJOURNED BUSINESS

Nil

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

The President informed the delegates that, with their approval, the State Executive intends to hold a State Raffle, with first prize being a – JB HiFi Plasma TV valued at \$1500, 2nd and 3rd prizes of cash vouchers, the raffle to be drawn on Vietnam Veterans Day 18th August. Books of tickets will be provided to Sub Branches for sale – **Approved**

Merchandise – The President also suggested that the State Executive send off copies of stubby holders and pens, which will be given out at the National Congress, to sub-branches to determine sales.

The President informed the Delegates that Sub Branches are to notify the Secretary, in writing, of how much is being held over by Sub Branches for PLI claims. These notifications are to be sent to the Secretary by 30th July 2010.

The President informed the Delegates that there is a requirement within the Constitution for Sub Branches to inform the State Secretary with a copy of their AGM minutes, including their financial statement, and all of the contact details of the Sub Branch Committee members.

A question arose regarding the issuing of the Constitution in plain language. The President replied that whilst there has been an attempt to do so, the current (2006) Constitution remains valid, even with all of its warts and faults. State Branches are to follow the National example, and additionally, Sub Branches are to follow the State versions.

A question was raised regarding the Issue of new Gold Cards. According to DVA, these will be done throughout 2010.

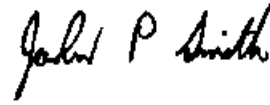
Re Display weapons – licensing. The Queensland Police, in **conjunction** with RSL's, are conducting a blitz about display weapons, ensuring that not only are they rendered safe, but that Sub Branches are licensed to hold such weapons, even for display purposes.

17. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Branch Management Committee will be at Townsville, at 10.00 am, Saturday 28th August 2010

18. CLOSURE

The President thanked the Redcliffe Sub Branch for hosting the State Management Committee Meeting. The President declared the meeting closed at 1330.



Proof read and approved for distribution by Mr. John Smith, Chairman.....

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Dated this.....4th.....Day June 2010

Approved by Council 28th August 2010

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Mr. John P Smith, OAM, JP (Quall)
President

Dated this 28th August 2010