



HIGHLIGHTS FROM STATE COUNCIL

MEETING HELD 26th / 27th February

The State Council of the RSL of NSW met in Lismore 26th to 27th Feb at the invitation of the Far North District Council and assistance of the City of Lismore RSL sub-Branch, but also financial help from many sub-Branches, who were in attendance.

The Council opened its meeting with the Lord Mayor's welcome, and a special

welcome from the Indigenous Community of the Bunjalong people.



RSL State Branch support Staff @ 41st BBQ

Items Arising

➡ The general format of the Annual State Congress had been looked at by the Honorary Officers and the CEO. The following recommendations will go to Congress 2011

	<u>Old Format</u> 	<u>New Format</u> 
• Monday	Administration Seminar	Administration Seminar Wreath Laying Election Vote Counting
• Tuesday	Wreath Laying State Pres Awards All other Awards Speeches from Guests Working Session pm	Official Opening Only MSM presentations Working Session Only minimum of Speeches
• Wed	Working session Announce ballot	Forums New DVA New RSL Open Forum
• Thursday	Allocated Congress day	Delete as completed by Wed

Other items

All other awards not covered as above will be presented at District Council or RSL sub-Branch level

Speeches will be limited to 2 State Presidents per year



Other Dept. DVA etc. will be able to address Congress at the new Forums
Special guests will address the forum at the opening, on Tuesday E.g. Minister for Veteran Affairs, State Government officers etc.

➡ It was also noted that there were some sub-Branches that found it difficult to become compliant for 2010. It is NOW 2011 and Regulatory Compliance is needed, that being said all sub-Branch returns SBA 1-2-3 and District Council affiliations need to be in ASAP. This will give clearance to your sub-Branch to vote on your Councillor for the next 3 years and also attend Congress with the right to vote. It also allows your District Council to have the same rights as yourself. If this does not occur, your charter may be removed to operate as a sub-Branch.

➡ **Cabramurra Youth Hostel** has been of concern in relation to the condition of the building, and the business plan for the future. It has been a direction of this State Council that “Specialist Consultants” and a State Council committee be engaged to look at, in the light of future capital investment, a Business plan for the future and especially the trust agreement between the Snowy Mts Authority and RSL of NSW. This has to be completed by May 2011 for consideration.

➡ **Motion 14**  is now a Congress agenda item.

It ONLY asks whether a “A new class of membership should be considered”, that is all.

If in the positive, it will progress into the policy and regulation format which will come back to you in 2012 for approval, consultation with all is still an agenda item. If not approved, no more work will be done on it.

➡ A motion from State Council as follows:-

Those recommendations to Congress 2011 are “That State Councillors be known as Directors. That State Council in future be known as the Board”, this will be an agenda item for that ASC.

➡ The RSL Day Clubs now have a new Mission Statement, “RSL Day Clubs support a Caring and Sharing environment for DVA, RSL and Community members” this was accepted by State Council.

➡ It has been noted that the “Vietnam Veterans Family Health Study” has now progressed into a new stage.

On the 15th March the committee will meet in Canberra where the completed Pilot Study will be reviewed before commencement of the complete study
If more information is needed please contact RSL NSW.



- ➔ At the ASC 2009, State Council was directed to draft The Returned and Services League of Australia (New South Wales Branch) Constitution into plain, simple English in its entirety.

At 2010 ASC approval was given for the consideration and subsequent adoption the re-written draft constitution (“**Draft Constitution**”), subject to and conditional upon the Regulators and that they be placed before the next Annual State Congress, i.e. the new Constitution, as amended and approved by the Regulators including the amended By-Laws, Regulations and Standing Policy (“**New Constitution**”) to consider and if approved, adopt the New Constitution in the place of the current Constitution, effective from the closure of that meeting.”

At this stage there have been no changes to the Draft Constitution requested by the Regulators.

Those draft documents i.e.:-

- Constitution
- By-Laws
- Regulations
- Standing Policy
- State Council Policy

were presented to State Council and will be placed upon the RSL web site and a CD will be distributed to all sub-Branched and District Councils.

For Congress 2011, the draft Constitution and By-Laws will be discussed as business arising out of 2010 ASC Congress.

It will be a debate of accepting the final document, and adopting it, or Rejecting it, Must be either / or only.

From then on, Amendments may be accepted. We must be careful that we do not fall into the old format of amending the constitution without “Due Diligence and Legal Opinion”.

The Draft Constitution sees a reduction of By-Laws from 61 to 20 and new regulations introduced. Those By-Laws deleted have been either incorporated in the new Regulations, are already By-Laws in RSL National Constitution or are no longer required.



The Regulations are like manuals for District Councils, sub-Branches and subsidiaries. They cover:-

1. Governance
The general policy's on sub-Branches, District Councils In the way they will be run and execution of general policy there in.
2. Property & Finance
As it states, how you will administer a SB/DC/subsidiary in all financial matters, Trustees, Audit procedures, Charitable Collections Act, etc.
3. Protocol
On the, Flag, Anzac Day, Order of Service, etc
4. Dispute Resolution
Covering all RSL activities and entities.

The next 3 regulations cover the 3 major RSL subsidiaries and help the sub-Branches with the administration of those subsidiaries.

5. RSL Youth Clubs
6. CCWA
7. RSL Day Clubs

The RSL Standing Policy is not affected in 2011. It state views on:-

- NSW Branch
- Veterans Affairs, Social Services & Taxation
- Defence Conditions and Service
- Commemoration Service & Memorials etc.
- State Council
- Miscellaneous

State Council Policy is directions of State Council that will be executed within time

e.g. Will give free membership to Serving personnel for 1 year?

How we will treat defaulting sub-Branches etc.?

These are directions that SC may follow in their deliberations when they meet.

State Council will meet prior to Congress 2011

The State Council Flyer will be done after Congress and will cover items not a Congress item

Sub-Editor: Mr B.Crosthwaite