



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
MINUTES FOR THE 487TH MEETING OF THE
VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL
HELD AT VICTORIAN ROVER CENTER
WEDNESDAY, 23RD MARCH 2022, AT 7:30PM

1	Welcome	
1.1	Flag Break	Kieron Younger
1.2	Attendance & Apologies Apologies – Jesse Lang, Megan Rogers	Maddy Packer
1.3	Acknowledgement of Country Scouts Victoria acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which this event takes place. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.	
1.4	Conflict of Interest –	
2	Congratulations, Guest Speakers, Presentations and Formal Thanks	
2.1	Good on Ya Mate – Council acknowledges and thanks the exceptional contributions to Rovering over the past month. ♦ All rovers at AG, with special mention to Sunny for managing the Rovers	
2.2	Guest Speakers & Presentations: Presentation for Dylan as D&I Officer for NRC	
3	Items for Consent	
3.1	Minutes of the previous VRC Meeting	Kieron Younger
	Motioned: Bays Seconded: Gippsland	
3.2	Correspondence	Maddy Packer
3.3	VRC Financial Report	Jody Freeman
	For the information of the VRC: "Victorian Rover Council and subcommittees held several Term Deposits with NAB managed on our behalf by the Finance Manager of Scouts Victoria. These deposits have been maturing this month, and on maturity have after consultation with VRC finance team been invested in the Scout Development fund as per a recent direction from the Scouts Victoria BEC Finance Committee. The Scout Development Fund is presently paying interest of 1.10% PA which is above the current rate of term deposit interest. Investment deposits held by the Victorian Rover Council, Bogong Rover Chalet and Mafeking Rover Park are now all in the Scout Development Fund."	
3.4	Decisions of the VRC Chair to be ratified	Kieron Younger
3.5	Nominations for the Baden-Powell Scout Award	Regions
	Rachael Osborne – Mordy RU, <i>Bays Region</i> Lisa Moffatt – Sir Dallas Brooks RU, <i>Bays Region</i>	

4.1 Chair**Kieron Younger**

Where do I start off? Should I get out of this wet towel before writing this report? Narr.

I truly believe things are already coming back into step after COVID, my duties being the chair VRC are now starting to show fruits of its labour. BPSA presentations, major events, asset visit, face to face meetings and of course car park chats, where would we be without car park chats.

There is so much to talk about so I apologize If I have missed anything.

Firstly, behaviour and culture. You would have seen my addresses in the newsletter and my comments from our last meeting. I am happy to report members have reached out and spoken about their thoughts. We will continue to listen as we always have been. Our plans going forward are to send quite a few recommendations to the state leadership team.

“Thank You's” and a “Sorry”:

- Thank you for the Rovers helping out at AG. Particular Sunny Aguilar for her hard work covering for other rovers who could not commit.
- Thank you to Baw Baw Committee for having me up at their working bee last weekend and another mention to Gippsland Region for taking me on a quick adventure to Captain Hurleys hut.
- Thank you to the BP lodge 448 UGLV on another successful Founders night and there continuous support to the Rover Scouts of Victoria.
- Thank you to my OB's who have continued to sever under me and taking up extra responsibilities. Last month you would have remembered the chief commissioner Rod Byrnes being a part of the conversations and asking us to really think about what we want the NRC to do for us. My NRC delegate Gemma Park has been amazing and worked really hard to working on some outcomes. I'll allow Gemma to showcase that later.
- I do wish to make an apology about our communications towards the NRC exec. I made an error about sending out collaboration email between us other branches. This was never to be address to them however they were meant to be CC'd which I forgot to provide their Email address off to Gemma for that I am sorry.

State Program team:

Myself and Peter sit on the state program team with all the other state commissioner sections, at our last meeting a major consensus was that the Mudbash Open day needs to be a major selling point to other sections inducing Venturers Scouts. Mudbash will provide further comment soon about how this council supports the Open day.

I have been trying to make a conscious effort to go visit our Units, Regions but lately trying to attend sub committees and assets. if you would like to book me in for a wood badge presentation, BPSA , Working bee's or even to chat a local Unit night am happy to do so.

Zoom works too 😊

P.S. the Glory and power of this council could one day be yours. My role is open for nominations quite soon. I fully recommend you have a think about what you would like to see yourself achieve in Rovers like I have in my Scouting career.

Email at:

chairman@vicrovers.com.au

4.2 Deputy Chair**Hamish Beshara**

This month I was able to visit our Rovers helping out at AG. It was great to see such a great representation from our Section there and I'd like to thank all the Rovers who volunteered their time. I heard several comments from other Leaders at the event that all the Rovers on site were amazing and a real asset to the event. Special shoutout to Sunny Aguilar for doing a lot of the leg work packing and transporting all the market stall paraphernalia,

coordinating the Rovers on-site and making our market stall successful. Thank you also to Rachael Osborne for preparing all the graphics and posters for use on the weekend.

The Region Chairs' and I had a good discussion about this month about the recruitment and retention of 18-year-old Venturers. We considered running an intensive recruitment drive around VG and AG rather than consistently year-round, which is an idea I will flesh out as part of my portfolio in the absence of a Membership Development Officer. If there are any Rovers interested in an opportunity to join the Office Bearers' team and work on growing our Section or if you have great ideas for improving recruitment, please reach out to me, I'd love to have you on board.

Email at:

deputy.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.3 Assistant Chair

Matthew Barnes

It has been another busy month for the Subcommittees, happy to see all the working bees that have happened over the last couple of weeks. Weekends such as these are vital to the ongoing ability in us as Rovers being able to say, "owned and operated by Rovers" I'd love to challenge every unit out there to be able to say at the end of every year that they have attended at least one working bee throughout the year.

There's lots of events coming up, Ski seasons are about to open its a great time for Rovers and Units to be out and about participating in the Rovering Program outside of the weekly Program

Tonight, we will be tabling a Discussion paper for a proposed Rover Levy, Its incredibly important that you try and engage with every Unit within your region about this is this will directly impact every Rover for many years to come.

Email at:

assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.4 Membership Development

Adam Kaplan

No report submitted.

Email at:

membership.development@vicrovers.com.au

4.5 Program

VACANT

No report submitted.

Email at:

program@vicrovers.com.au

4.6 Program Transition Officer

Harrison Feldman

Email at:

program.transition@vicrovers.com.au

4.7 Training

Catherine Marley

Planning for May Madness is going well, with both courses filling up quickly. I have listed the required Online Training Modules below, and 'On the Job Checklists can be signed off by region chairs or myself.

Scouting Essentials Prerequisites:

All Preliminary and Essentials On Demand Modules

'On the Job>Plan' Checklist

Scouting Leadership Prerequisites:

Have completed Scouting Essentials and Adventure or equivalent (Basic and Outdoor)
 Two Leadership On Demand Modules (SL GROW and SL SPIRITUAL)
 Two Elective On Demand Modules (ACORE SKILL and ACORE SAFE)
 'On the Job>Do' Checklist

Training Modules are available for regions, units and subcommittees to book, get in contact with me via the Facebook page or training@vicrovers.com.au This is a great way to upskill your team during your normal meeting time.

Email at:

training@vicrovers.com.au

4.8 BPSA

Catherine Marley

The next BPSA Support Team Training Session is coming up on the 18th of April. Now that we have trained members in every region, I'd like to see if we can have someone trained in every unit. If you're completing the award scheme, this session will help narrow down the requirements and there will be time to discuss project plans at the end of the session.

I am also compiling a list of all BPSA Support Team members, so we can utilise the team better for reflection panels. Thanks to those who have already gotten back to me.

Any questions regarding BPSA requirements can be sent to bpsa@vicrovers.com.au

Email at:

bpsa@vicrovers.com.au

4.9 NRC

Gemma Park

We took onboard the feedback we received in February VRC meeting and have put the work in to make significant rapid change at NRC by proposing a series of papers which align with the discussion being had within Victoria over the last few years. These papers are straightforward and easily implemented, and all deliver outcomes within 12 months therefore making it easy to review. Our vision for the future of the NRC focuses on increasing the number of Rovers who can access NRC benefits, the funding stream to be those Rovers who directly benefit from NRC participation and keeping the cost to these Rovers affordable. In practice this looks like:

- A "NRC Conference" open to all Rovers, with an agenda that ensures project delivery, and is funded entirely by attendees.
- A small (approx. \$100) Branch Levy which is the same amount for each branch to cover admin fees and contingency. In future years this may be removed from the budget if we find the conference ticketing covers these costs.
- At this time, we are not addressing the Rover Development Fund in depth.

The 10 papers are listed below, while we don't support all papers to pass – each paper raises a discussion point (found on page 2-28 of the minute attachment):

1. NRC exec meetings should be self-funded.
2. NRC Conference to be funded by tickets and travel arrangements to be funded by individuals/branches.
3. Cancellation of 2021 levies.
4. Proportional Voting: The number of NRC voting parties a branch is allowed is reflective of the percentage that their members make up of National membership, and therefore reflective of the amount of money they pay.
5. The NRC General Operations budget bill to be divided as a reflection of the voting weight at the table.
6. Financial participation in the NRC General Operations to be optional.
7. Financial participation in the NRC's Rover Development Fund to be optional.
8. (If the "Conference being ticketed with independent travel" paper fails) NRC conference to be held entirely online with a \$0 budget.
9. The NRC conference is open to all Rovers to attend.
10. No "process/admin" papers to be tabled/discussed at NRC Conference.

We have invited along all branches to attend a workshop on these papers on Thursday 31st March, in hopes of passing some of these papers to at least achieve an NRC levy for Victoria which would be considered “pocket change”. Ideally multiple of these papers will pass and we can achieve deliverable change at NRC. After the workshop, we will propose these papers to the NRC March Remote Meeting (held in April) and should know by April VRC meeting if change has occurred.

The “Proposal for VRC to become non-financial members of NRC” paper:

I am requesting that we delay the vote at VRC for this paper until April VRC, to allow us time to see how these papers go. We are also requesting to pay the next instalment of our payment plan (payment 3/4) to allow us time to vote on these papers. The current Victorian Delegation to NRC see these papers as a last-ditch attempt for improvement. Should we fail, we will be falling back on the amended “non-financial” paper and voting on this is in April.

Email at:

nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au

4.10 Finance

Cameron Phillips

No report submitted.

Email at:

finance@vicrovers.com.au

4.11 Secretary

Maddy Packer

This month the policy changes were finally uploaded onto the VicRovers website, sorry for the delay in that.

Nominations for the VRC Chair open on April 1st, the nomination for will be live then. Use the link below

<https://forms.gle/DQH9qrwbuC33qeHJ6>

All reports **not** provided will not be typed up in their entirety; only key points will be listed. If you have a general business item to present, please ensure you send through a short summary to me.

Email at:

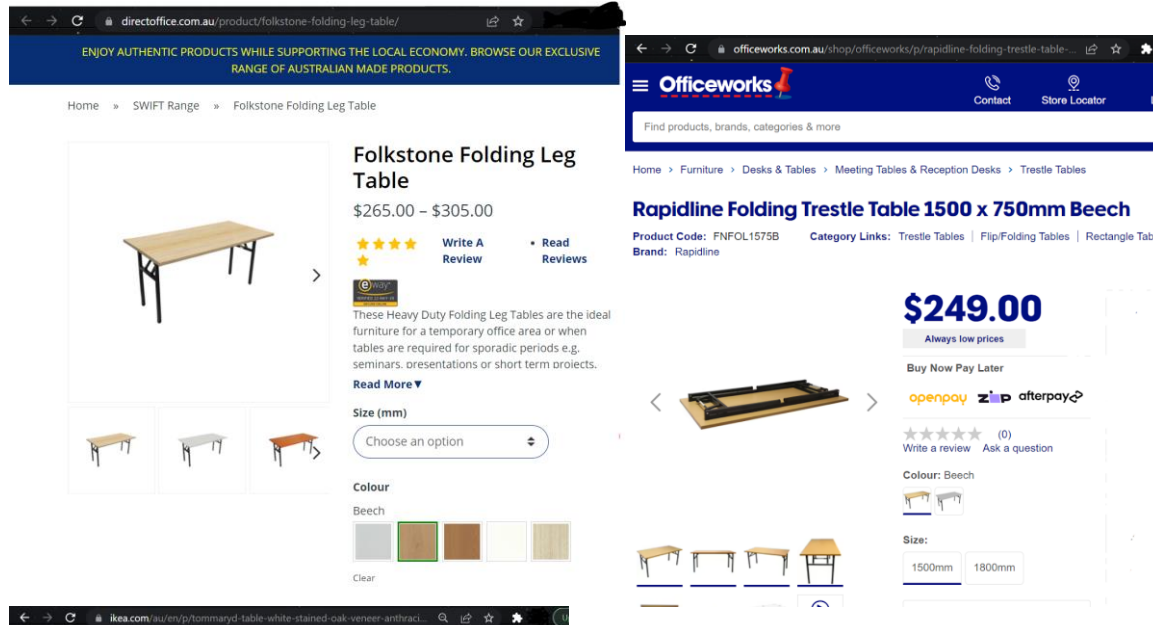
secretary@vicrovers.com.au

4.12 Resources

Sunny Aguilar

This month I have started looking at new tables for the main room, with

I am still planning on a day that the plumber and I are both available to get all the



There is also a possibility of having a bi-monthly professional cleaning, just need to work out what we would want done

Email at:

resources@vicrovers.com.au

4.13 Strategic Planning

VACANT

No report submitted.

Email at:

strategicplan@vicrovers.com.au

4.14 Marketing & Communications

Rachael Osborne

I'm still working on social media policy amendments, so unfortunately I have nothing to table this month and I will hopefully have that for April. Otherwise, not much to report. It's been really good to have some more units actively tagging @vicrovers in their Instagram stories, so we've been able to share all those who are. please remind your regions that we'll share all their stuff if they tag us!

Email at:

communications@vicrovers.com.au

4.15 Visual Communications**Rachael Osborne**

I am currently finalising the region maps with the new South West/Murray Midlands border as well as some minor unit list adjustments, and then they will be posted on the Vic Rovers accounts. I believe I have smoothed out any issues regions were having with my lists, but please politely (I beg of you, please be polite, I am not in charge of each region's units) reach out if you have anything else you'd like me to fix before they go up, hopefully Friday night.

Email at:

visual.communications@vicrovers.com.au.

4.16 IT**Michael Watts**

- ◆ 2 new projectors – thanks to Pete and Keiron
- ◆ While these are being installed, we will be rewiring to provide power in additional locations
- ◆ Looking to install a TV in foyer to include current information about events and VicRovers

You can contact the IT Team at it@vicrovers.com.au, and the online store team at store@vicrovers.com.au. Please reach out if there is anything we can assist with.

4.17 Commissioner Group**Peter Wotherspoon, Regi Caesar, Stephen Carter****Baden-Powell Lodge Rover Service Award**

On 28th February I had the pleasure of joining members of the BP Lodge and other Scouting personnel for the presentation of the BP Lodge Rover Service Award to members of Kurll's Own Rover Unit. A good night and congratulations again to the Kurll's Own team.

State Commissioner's Award

This award is presented annually to a Rover or Adviser who has made a contribution to Rovers over the past twelve months. Full details of the criteria and the nomination process are contained on the website. Nominations close with Peter on 30 June.

National Rover Council (NRC)

There has been much discussion regarding the operation of the NRC over the past months with a culmination at our last VRC meeting. A number of Rovers and Advisers have been involved but could I thank Gemma for leading the discussion at the last VRC meeting, at which the Chief Commissioner was present, and for all the work she has done in the preparation of papers for consideration.

Behaviour

At our last meeting Kieron outlined a number of issues associated with the behaviour at Rover events. Since that time there have been a number of discussions among various Rover teams and a proposed set of guidelines is under preparation and will be available for consideration at the April meeting.

RSM Rover Advisor

Rover advisor for RSM has resigned. Advertising for this role will be out in the near future.

Emails:

Pete: sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au

Regi: regi.caesar@vicrovers.com.au

Stephen: stephen.carter@vicrovers.com.au

5.1 Mafeking Rover Park**Charmaine Beggs**

- ◆ The Park has been able to accept bookings since November. In this time, we have made over \$16000 from bookings.
- ◆ Bookings team have learnt how to use xero
- ◆ Are requesting to make an amendment to the budget, more in tabled section– increase of \$1000
- ◆ Putting forward paper to be voted on in regard to group bookings

5.2 Surfmoot**Megan Rogers**

- ◆ AGM Wednesday April 20th 7.30pm @ VRC
- ◆ Zoom link will be provided

5.3 Mudbash**Nicola Dangerfield**

Mudbash has been extremely eventful. We had a full meeting last month with most of our team present, which was wonderful. We're getting closer and closer every day now, and the Team has been working hard to lock in some great activities, Amazing entertainment and everything in between.

We had our Mudbash working bee the weekend just passed, and had a few very helpful hands. We will not be able to have an April working Bee, so May 20-22 will be crews last opportunity to get their man hours up.

Any concerns or questions, feel free to contact the Mudbash page or myself on chair@mudbash.com

5.4 Rover Scout Motorsport (RSM)**Mitchell Hanger**

- ◆ RA has stepped down so will start looking for replacement
- ◆ Had event star of match with 60 competitors
- ◆ Next event is in April – Racing Boot
- ◆ Have been asked to run Hotlaps for a few venturer events – one this weekend, one at easter

5.5 Bogong Rover Chalet**Jesse Lang**

Couple of updates for this month.

We had a working bee run over Labour Day Weekend, where the pantry walls and flooring were redone. The works on the pantry are currently on track to be completed before winter.

We've also had more bookings, so if you were interested in attending a Rover Ski Moot, Week 1 is the only week with places left. Weeks 5, 8, and 11, which are open to all adults, also still have a few places left.

5.6 W.F. Waters Lodge**Todd Henderson**

- ◆ Had a working bee over the weekend, with good numbers, meaning a lot was able to be done
 - 3 inside doors replaced
 - Carpets steam cleaned
 - Cleaned out pantry and did stocktake
- ◆ The May working bee will be last working bee before ski season opens
- ◆ Great to see Kieron at the working bee and to be able to put him to work
- ◆ Bookings are going great, winter season for Rovers are almost full, off season for next year is already receiving bookings as well
- ◆ Flue will need to be replaced – replacing coonara will be the best option

5.7 MARB**Madeline Ancill/Breanne Simmons****MARB 2021:**

Here is MARB 2021!

MARB 2021 - Game on is 10 Days away. There is some important information so please read it!!!

We are only 3 DAYS to get your tickets to the night of all nights! The committee has tried their best to ensure that everyone leaves with their tummies full of food, however, we need your help! We need everyone to register by FRIDAY NIGHT. Please check your spam/junk folders for emails to assist you with this process. We are required to give the catering company all of this information.

Thank you to Mafeking, Surfmoot and AIM for proving donations for the event. We really appreciate your support.

Make sure you listen out for their announcements on the night. If you would like to contribute to the evening, please let me know.

Not sure how you are getting there or home yet? Well, you are very lucky that Kingsford Smith Rover Unit is hosting a sleepover. Their hall is a 5-minute drive from the venue so perfect. They are even offering breakfast the following. For more information, please click interested in the Facebook event https://www.facebook.com/events/329264842331732?active_tab=about and/or contact Sunny on 0403 161 414.

▼ Region Stats	
Region	Registrations
Lerderderg Region	33
Mt Dandenong Region	31
Plenty Valley Region	22
Melbourne Region	17
Bays Region	16
Other Formation Type / No Formation Listed	14
South West Region	6
Murray Midlands Region	1
Gippsland Region	1

I have added a screenshot of the registration breakdown. Please note, this is accurate as of 20/03/2022 at 7:45 pm (Please note we have 45 tickets that have not been registered). I will get this updated on Wednesday night: Region chairs I am really going to need your help! MARB takes place 2 days after census, so please remind your units to get in contact with their group leader and ensure they stay registered. I would hate for people to miss this event after being accidentally deregistered.

Keep up with the latest information by liking our page and/or clicking going to the MARB event on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/940897123344616>.

We are so keen to party the night away with you all! See you at the Coburg Town Hall in 10 days!

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at chair@marb.com.au.

MARB 2022:

Not much going on as we had up to the 2021 MARB but we should be voting for our budget tonight.

No report submitted.

6.1 Bays	Rachael Osborne
Bays had a great meeting this month, where we enjoyed cake and a small celebration of our lovely region RA Drew's birthday. Congratulations to Lisa for earning her BPSA this month!! This, plus my own, brings us to four for 2022 so far! Currently we are preparing for our new exec at the end of my term in June.	
6.2 Gippsland	Justin Porter
<p>Hey guys this month has been pretty average for Gippsland. We had units assisting at AG and I would thank all the rovers that went up and help. We are opening nominations for our next exec next meeting. We are currently setting up a patrol for a secret Gem of Gippsland the Captain Hurley Hut.</p> <p>Captain Hurley Hut- We had a group of people head up to Captain Hurley Hut. For those that don't know the captain Hurley hut is a Gippsland rover run asset. Due to the pandemic, we were on the verge of losing the hut but are currently having discussions with Parks Victoria to retain it. We currently have people helping out with all sorts of things like maintenance etc. up there. We are also on working on getting funding to improve the facility. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it to the meeting in person as I had to run my region meeting but I attended the meeting online (when it wasn't cutting in and out) so any questions you can ask Kieron who attended in person.</p>	
6.3 Lerderderg	Wil Sumbler
Lerderderg had ourselves a lovely bowling night this last month with attendance from every Rover unit for the first time in about as long as I can remember Our main focus at the moment is working on Hoadley Hide and I'm glad to see we've got a large number of Rovers participating in running the event. Other than that, all things are high and peachy out our end.	
6.4 Melbourne	Tiffanie Thomas
6.5 Mt Dandenong	Gemma Park
Business as usual at Mt Dande this month. We're working with 3 Rover units on starting up (Churchill, EJ Chittick, EJ Marshall), helping units convert to New Program and promoting Rovering to the Venturers. We're excited for Damp Camp coming up this weekend, which is an event run by ex-rovers. We're also looking forward to our "try before you buy – exec social night" where we have invited anyone interested in an exec position to join us at Holey Moley to socialise, ask questions and get to know the vibe of the team. We're hoping to gain some extra exec members for next term.	
6.6 Murray Midlands	Travis Elliot
6.7 Plenty Valley	Nathan Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Currently planning rover dinner, budget will be out soon ♦ Have a unit name to table 	
6.8 South West	Lily Twyford
<p>We have made progress with our bank! We are officially transitioning to Bendigo bank with the new signatories and everything, it's been an ordeal but we are getting there. As part of Bendigo bank, we have also decided to set up our account so that 100% of the interest is donated to a charity, we picked the Royal Children's Hospital. It's a very easy way for us to provide additional service, although I don't think our interest will be incredibly large but oh well ever cent counts!</p> <p>We have our Dropbox and documentation organised once again, which is very nice and convenient to find things. Otherwise, we are tabling a (discussion?) paper on the western scout region merger on behalf of both south west and Murray midlands - this will be discussed in the tabled items section though.</p>	

7 Other Reports**7.1 MPAC Report**

Nothing to report.

8 Interstate, National and International Events and Contingents**8.1 Apple Isle Moot - Tasmania****Lily Twyford**

Very exciting news, our aim was 100 registrations - and we've hit that, and with 9 months to spare! We of course are hoping to get even more than this but this is a pretty wonderful achievement already.

Contingent fee will very soon be available on the voiceovers store - please ensure you have paid this if you are attending the moot.

Travel plan - this is an opt in situation and will not be mandatory, people will be able to travel independently but will be required to tell the contiguity team their plans as we are still responsible for everyone in the state. We will be getting the night ferry from Geelong leaving December 30th (arriving 31st morning in time for camp) and leaving on the night ferry on January 8th (arriving 9th morning) - costs will be approximately \$305 for both ways plus cars & trailers - we will be releasing this as a buy in option on the store as soon as we have confirmed terms and conditions.

This has been sent to the region - but some handy Q & A!

What is AIM? and why should I attend?

AIM is the next scheduled national moot, running 31st December 2022 to 8th January 2023 - short for Apple Isle Moot! A Moot is a gathering of Rovers from all across Australia and the World who participate in a multi-day program filled with fun, challenging and adventurous activities. At a Moot there is always the opportunity to try something new, develop yourself, and make many new friends from all over! National moots are ones for the memory banks - filled with adventure, fun and who knows maybe even a little romance. You will not find a better value for money experience!

Where is it located?

Fulton Park Scout Campsite, situated in the North West of Tasmania, is surrounded by picturesque forest, all within a stones-throw of the River Forth and just a short drive to the coast. The camp features both large tent camping areas, as well as indoor activity spaces.

How will AIM be structured? And why only 9 days?

After a lot of careful consideration, the moot team have figured out a structure that will fit the 9 days, will work for everyone, and still pack in as much fun as possible. AIM will run from a Saturday to the following Sunday. This means that you only need to take 1 working week of holidays! The shorter length will also reduce overall costs. Moots are structured into two main parts - onsite camp & expeditions.

What are the expeditions?

Expeditions refers to an offsite activity for part of the camp, and there are so many options to choose from! You could go hiking, sailing, scuba diving, ride a train and literally so much more - but preferences fill up very fast so if you want to get your first choice to have to make sure your first deposit is in asap!

Pricing

The Moot Fee will consist of 3 main parts: Base Fee (\$750 for Participants and \$600 for Service Team), Expedition Fee (will depend on what expedition the participant chooses) & Offsite Activities Fee (will depend on what activities the participant chooses, and may involve costs on the day for food/drink/shopping)

There is also a mandatory additional contingent fee of \$85 - this covers welfare, emergency funds and importantly merchandise! As you will be registered with the Victorian contingent - you come with us! You'll get specific Victorian merchandise, a welfare guarantee, travel options & a great support family!

How do I get there?

There are two main options - plane or boat. The contingent team will organise a voluntary contingent travel route so you can book in a big group, or you are free to travel as you'd like. More information to come on this closer to the event when prices are more locked in.

Further details

Check out website - <https://www.appleisleemoot.com.au/home>

Don't forget to check out on Facebook and Instagram the Victorian contingent info - 'Victorian Contingent to AIM 2023' <https://www.facebook.com/VicconAIM2023> &

@vicconaim2023 <https://www.instagram.com/vicconaim2023/?hl=en>

9.1	VRC to become non-financial members of the National Rover Council (NRC).	Mt Dandenong
	<p>This paper can be found on page 29 of the minute attachments</p> <p>KEY POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian Rovers currently do not receive "value for money" from their financial membership to NRC. • VRC should become non-financial members of NRC. <p>MOTION TO NOT VOTING ON THIS AT MARCH VRC Motioned: Mt Dandenong Second: Bays Passed.</p> <p>MOTION FOR AMENDMENTS MADE – Can be found in paper Motioned: Mt Dandenong Second: Plenty Valley Passed.</p> <p>Please send any comments or questions to the Mt Dandenong Chair. mtdandenong.chair@vicrovers.com.au</p>	
9.2	MARB 2022 Budget	MARB
	<p>The budget and cover letter can be found on page 33 of the minute attachments.</p> <p>Motioned: Bays Second: Plenty Valley Passed.</p> <p>Please send any comments or questions to the Chair, Breanne chair@marb.com.au</p>	
9.3	Amendment to VicRovers Policy Book – Major Events Hiring Victorian Rover Assets	Matthew Barnes
	<p>Proposing an amendment to Policy, VicRovers Policy Book, Pg. 30 – MAJOR EVENTS HIRING VICTORIAN ROVER ASSETS:</p> <p>DEFINITION OF A MAJOR EVENT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any activity or event whereby an organization, group or entity applies to hire an asset with participants over 50 people. Activation of this policy is the responsibility of the Asset Chair, Adviser or Assistant State Commissioner – Rover Support. <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Raise the number from 50 to 250 for hire groups at Mafeking 	

Reasoning:

- ◆ Seeing an increase of external hires coming to the park
- ◆ Current number is restricting the Mafeking Management Group's ability to streamline hires
 - Created an unnecessary admin job that can potentially be eliminated
- ◆ Reason behind this policy is to ensure appropriate oversight of external hirers using out assets, but we believe in Mafeking's case, that 250 is still an acceptable number

Motioned: Mt Dandenong

Second: Melbourne

Passed.

Please send any comments or questions to Matthew Barnes

assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au

9.4 Mafeking Budget Amendment

Mafeking

Mafeking be approved \$6000 (an additional \$1000) for the budget for tractor

KEY NOTES:

- ◆ Price for tractor is higher than originally thought
- ◆ Mafeking have the funds available, just needing approval to use funds

Motioned: Murray Midlands

Second: Gippsland

Passed.

Please send any comments or questions to Mafeking Chair

chairman@mafekingroverpark.com

10.1 Requirements for Child Safety and WHS Modules for All Adults in Scouting

Please periodically remind the Rovers in your Regions, Subcommittees and Units that these modules may have expired without their knowledge, and that they need to re-complete them when this occurs.

11.1 Rover Levy Proposal

Matthew Barnes

This paper can be found on page 40 of the minute attachment

KEY POINTS:

- ◆ This proposed model would mean that every Victorian Rover would be contributing to the operations rather than just those who currently attend our events or assets. This would ensure equity across the Section. Currently some Rovers do not, as a result of current arrangements, pay their National Rover Council levy.
- ◆ It is proposed to introduce a levy on all Rovers of \$15 per annum
- ◆ Each Unit would be Invoiced according to the number of people in their Unit. (Example, a Unit of 10 people would be invoiced \$150, compared to a Unit of 5 which would only be Invoiced \$75
- ◆ Unit Advisers, Region and State Support Commissioners will also be levied. These Invoices would go to relevant team.
- ◆ Appropriations on events would be removed and assets would contribute a lesser amount.
- ◆ Through this levy, the VRC could now provide-a cheaper program for all Rovers. Appropriations would reduce to the following;

- ◆ Surfmoot and Mudbash would drop from \$5,000 to \$0
- ◆ MARB and RSM would move to paying \$0
- ◆ W.F Waters Chalet and Bogong Chalet would drop from \$5,000 to \$1,000
- ◆ Mafeking would remain at \$1,000

The expectation of removing appropriations is that we can make our events cheaper to grass roots Rovers. We can make attending our assets cheaper for all Rovers. The reasoning behind still charging assets appropriations is that part of their income comes from external hirers, therefore it's not a tax to Rovers.

THIS IS A DISCUSSION PAPER - RESULTS FROM DISCUSSION WILL HELP CREATE A VOTING PAPER

Please send any comments or questions to Matthew Barnes

assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au

11.2 Western Scout Region Merger – Proposed Rover Region Border Changes

Lily Twyford

This paper can be found on page 42 of the minute attachment.

KEY POINTS:

- ◆ South West is comprised of both Geelong and West Coast scout regions, and Murray midlands is comprised of Loddon Mallee, Northern and Western.
- ◆ This proposal states that Western Scout Region would move from being within Murray Midlands to South West Rover Region - moving the rover region boundaries.
- ◆ The regions would be much more proportional and make more sense geographically.
- ◆ This proposal greatly benefits South West by increasing unit diversity but also at region events and in general more options for communications and activities.
- ◆ This proposal greatly benefits Murray Midlands by decreasing the strain on region as they would have less rovers to worry about but also their units would be less distanced and easier to manage.

Please send any comments or questions to Lily Twyford

southwest.chair@vicrovers.com.au

12.1 Unit Names and Scarves

Regions

- ◆ Wurundjeri RU changing name to Sunburra RU - original name for that land, no scarf change
- ◆ Kingsford Smith has new scarf - 9th Brunswick group scarf with a badge



12.2 Workplace Health & Safety Items

If you are using the VRC please ensure you check-in using the QR code on the front door, use sanitiser frequently and wash down all frequently touched surfaces before departure.

12.3 WWCC/e-Learning Reminders

Details of members with outstanding membership requirements are sent to Unit Leaders and Region Teams every month. Please ensure these are actioned in a timely manner.
If you'd like an ad-hoc report please contact Jeff

12.4 Operoo

Any event you run should be registered with Operoo. Contact the State Operoo team @ Operoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au to inform them of your event, they will help you with the process around that
NEW EMAIL - CHDCK

12.5 ScOUT & ABOUT

Register your event through the link here. Anything from Working Bees to weekend camps.
<https://myrecord.scoutsvictoria.com.au/memberportal/scouting-activity/vic>

12.6 Terrain

More to come.

12.7 Active Rover Policy

You can find a summary sheet and optional approval form for this policy at
<https://www.vicrovers.com.au/resources/policies>

13.1 Other Business

- New transition data form - Harrison
 - Region chairs can handle it to get units to do form
 - Or Harrison can bug the units to fill form - won't bug them as much as last time
 - Response rate will determine Harrison's good books
- Pete
 - Alone Australia
 - Spend extended time in the wilderness and earn half a million dollars
 - Mentioned in newsletter - <https://www.vicrovers.com.au/news/item/342>
- If southwest paper gets approved their regions scarves will need to be changed
- Zoom Licences
 - There was a bulk purchase of zoom licences at start of pandemic for discounted price
 - There are currently 70 surplus licences not being used, these can be used by rovers for \$52.50
 - Contact Michael.wong@scoutsvictoria.com.au and let them know you are interested in a licence, and hand over details required, i.e., email

Closing Parade: Flag Down & Rover Prayer

Meeting Closed at: 09:30 pm

VRC MINUTE APPENDIX

MARCH MEETING

23.03.22

Title	Page	Agenda Item	Description
NRC exec meetings should be self-funded.....	2	4.9	Report Item
NRC Conference to be funding.....	4	4.9	Report Item
Cancellation of 2021 levies.....	7	4.9	Report Item
Proportional Voting.....	10	4.9	Report Item
The NRC General Operations budget bill division.....	12	4.9	Report Item
Financial participation in NRC General Operations.....	15	4.9	Report Item
Financial participation in NRC Rover Development Fund....	18	4.9	Report Item
NRC conference be held entirely online with a \$0 budget..	21	4.9	Report Item
The NRC conference is open to all Rovers to attend.....	24	4.9	Report Item
No “process/admin” papers at NRC Conference.....	27	4.9	Report Item
VRC to become non-financial members of NRC.....	29	9.1	Voting Item
MARB 2022 Cover Letter & Budget.....	33	9.2	Voting Item
Rover Levy Policy.....	40	11.1	Tabled Item
Western Scout Region Merger.....	42	11.2	Tabled Item



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
NRC Remote Meeting
[Date]

Item Title	NRC Executive Team meetings to be removed from the NRC Operations Budget.
Information	
x Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch delegation to NRC.
Strategic Alignment	<p>Program: Decreasing the Branch NRC levies allows the Rovering program to be delivered at the lowest cost possible, therefore making the Rover Program more accessible to people of all backgrounds. Consequently a larger, more diverse membership base allows the program to grow in strength and quality.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation	Victorian Branch delegation to NRC and Victorian Region Chairs.
Implementation period	<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>As soon as possible: Current budget updated with only receipts accepted for purchases dated before this paper passing.</p> <p>2022/23 Budget: "NRC Executive Meetings" line removed/not included.</p>

KEY POINTS

- Online meetings can be productive and successful at delivering outcomes at no cost.
- NRC Executive meeting funding should be removed from the budget.
- Should the NRC Executive decide to hold a face-to-face meeting it should be self-funded by the meeting attendees.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived "value for money" financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.
- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.
- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. Furthermore, the Review's 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering

value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.

- National COVID restrictions have forced many teams to meet online including the NRC Executive. The previous 2 years have demonstrated that online meetings can be successful in achieving outcomes.
- Therefore, NRC Executive meeting funding could be removed from the budget as these meetings could be held online at no cost.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Remove the “NRC Executive Meetings” line from the budget, both this year and in future budgets.
- The NRC Executive Team self-fund their meetings.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian Branch delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC treasurer to update budget.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Nil risks anticipated.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Reduced NRC levies for branches. Branches can invest grassroot rovers’ money into projects with the best outcomes for grassroots rovers, to ensure Rovering is worth the financial cost. This ensures retention of current members and makes Rovering a financially attractive option to potential members; as a result growing our membership.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
NRC Remote Meeting
[Date]

Item Title	NRC Conference to be funded by tickets, and travel arrangements to be funded by individuals and/or branches
Information	
X Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment	<p>Program: Allowing branches to decide where Rovering fees are spent allows the branch to divert funding into projects targeted to the specific issues of that branch, therefore delivering the best program for that branch.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation	Victorian Region Chairs, Victorian Rover Commissioners, Victorian Grassroot Rovers. Opportunity made for other branches to provide feedback.
Implementation period	<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>2022/2023 Budget: Conference has its own budget within the NRC budget, in which conference costs are balanced out by income from ticket sales. The NRC Levy is reduced to balance the removal of the NRC Conference and Conference Travel as an expenditure item.</p>

KEY POINTS

- The NRC Operational Account Expenditure consists of: NRC Conference Attendance, NRC Conference Travel, NRC Executive Meetings, Administration Support and Contingency. It is the Victorian opinion that these items do not benefit our grassroots Rovers.
- The content of the NRC Conference doesn't benefit grassroots Rovers. However, it significantly benefits those in attendance (ie. building soft skills and networking skills).
- The Conference should be funded by ticketing its participants, and travel be organised privately (removed from NRC Ops Budget).
- This paper should be read in conjunction with the paper proposing to open tickets to all Rovers and increase number of face-to-face participants; this ensures financial viability of tickets to fund the event.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived "value for money" financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.

- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.
- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. The Review's 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.
- When reflecting on previous conferences (in particular the last 4 years of conference due to having easy access to conference attendees), no conference delivered significant outcomes to grassroots Rovers to justify the cost.
- The External Review Findings and anecdotal reports find that attendees of the Conference do experience benefits, however due to the type of benefits (namely skill building) are not passed onto grassroots Rovers.
- Therefore, the NRC Conference should be funded by ticketing attendees and travel arrangements shall be privately arranged/removed from the budget.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Plan the 2022/23 budget with the following changes from this year's budget:
 - Conference has its own budget within the NRC budget, in which conference costs are balanced out by income from ticket sales.
 - Conference travel is removed from the budget.
 - The NRC Levy is reduced to balance the removal of the NRC Conference and Conference Travel as an expenditure item.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	Nil.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Branches who contribute only a small proportion to the total NRC levy are currently having their travel and tickets to conference heavily funded by all grassroots Rovers; this would be lost with the change to ticketing. This is mitigated by encouraging all attendees who have financial difficulties to fundraise, apply for grants and potentially apply for Rover Challenge grants.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Reduced NRC levies for branches. Branches can invest grassroots rovers' money into projects with the best outcomes for grassroots rovers, to ensure Rovering is worth the financial cost. This ensures retention of current members and makes Rovering a financially attractive option to potential members; as a result, growing our membership.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
NRC Remote Meeting
[Date]

Item Title		2021 Branch NRC Levies to be cancelled.
	Information	
X	Decision	
Document Author		Victorian Branch delegation to NRC.
Strategic Alignment		<p>Program: Decreasing the Branch NRC levies allows the Rovering program to be delivered at the lowest cost possible, therefore making the Rover Program more accessible to people of all backgrounds. Consequently, a larger, more diverse membership base allows the program to grow in strength and quality.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation		Victorian Branch delegation to NRC and Victorian Region Chairs.
Implementation period		<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>May: Refunds processed to Branches by end of May (2 months allowance to process these transactions)</p>

KEY POINTS

- The 2022 NRC conference (the largest expense in the budget) was held entirely online, with food reimbursement as the only cost.
- NRC levies for 2021 should be cancelled and refunded back to Branches (minus the food reimbursement costs and already purchased budget items (receipts must be dated prior to this paper passing to be included)).

BACKGROUND

- The NRC Operational Account Expenditure consists of: NRC Conference Attendance, NRC Conference Travel, NRC Executive Meetings, Administration Support and Contingency.
- The NRC Conference 2022 was hosted entirely online significantly reducing the cost in the budget. The only conference cost was a food reimbursement of \$30 per attendee (NRC Executive members, NRC Project Officers, and the standard Branch delegation (up to 2 delegates, 2 observers and 1 advisor)). Claiming the food reimbursement was optional and due late February. By March remote meeting there should be a clear idea of who has claimed and what the conference “actuals” are.
- NRC Exec meetings should be self-funded (please refer to the paper on this topic) and therefore no longer required in the budget. Funding already spent on this budget prior to this budget would be deducted before calculating refund totals.
- Administration Support is budgeted at \$1000 however only cost \$13.2 in 2021/22 “actuals”. Given the conference was online for both 2021 and 2022 (and therefore a

low number of transactions processed through the account) we could expect costs to also be low this year. This could be covered by previous year's surplus or be factored into next year's conference tickets (please refer to the paper describing conference being funded by tickets).

- Contingency "actuals" were \$0 last year. As the Conference has already been held it is not unreasonable to expect no/low contingency costs this year.
- Due to funds pre-existing as a surplus in the General Operations Account, this year's Admin Support and Contingency fees could also come from money already in the General Operations Account.
- Due to national COVID restrictions and the ongoing consequences it is crucial that all funds possible be reinvested into projects that re-invigorate Rovering. For example, in Victoria the Rovering Section took a large financial hit due to inability to use their assets to bring in income, and many Rovers were out of work for a long period of time making personal finances challenging.
- The NRC branch levies for 2021 should be cancelled (minus the food bill for conference and already purchased budget items as previously described), and money that has already been paid to NRC be refunded.
- Moot buddies/Rover Development Fund levy still applies.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- NRC Treasurer publishes the total for Conference Food Reimbursements by the end of March.
- The NRC Treasurer calculates the amount of refund per Branch as: ((total budgeted income from NRC Levy) – (Food Reimbursements + Already spent budgeted items)x (percentage that states membership makes up as of 2020 rover census).
- NRC Treasurer refunds Branches.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian Branch delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC Treasurer to calculate totals and facilitate transfers.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Nil risks.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. End of March: Totals for Food Reimbursement determined. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and passes. End of April: Already spent budget items receipts are declared. May: Refunds issued.
Outcomes	Branches can invest grassroots rovers' money into projects with the best outcomes for grassroots rovers focusing on retention and growth.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title	Proportional Voting: Number of votes equal to proportion of total NRC Levy paid.
Information	
X Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment	<p>Representation: This paper aims to ensure that the number of branch delegates from each branch on NRC is reflective of the percentage that Branch contributes to national membership numbers, therefore ensuring accurate representation of Rovers when it comes to making decisions.</p> <p>Governance: In order to ensure NRC is working in a flexible way to meet the needs of the Rover section, the number of voting members of each branch on the NRC needs to be reflective of the proportion that Branch makes up of the section.</p>
Consultation	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Implementation period	<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>Concept applied to the NRC levy invoiced in 2022 (ie. the next bill).</p>

KEY POINTS

- Each BRC is the best party to identify and communicate the needs of its members, and currently each member pays a fee to fund the NRC operations.
- Therefore, the proportion of the total votes each branch has should be reflective of the proportion of the members and funding.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived “value for money” financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.
- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.
- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. Furthermore, the Review’s 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.
- In September 2021 the Victorian Region Chairs began investigating what NRC could provide to grassroots Rovers that was worth financially funding. The Region Chairs

could not design any projects worth \$1000+. It was then taken to the Regions to discuss within their individual teams and the feedback to the Region Chairs was that they could not come up with any NRC project ideas that benefited them, and the money could be better spent within the branch.

- In October 2021 the sentiment from Victorian Rovers that “there was nothing NRC has recently provided or could provide that would be of great benefit to them” was raised with the NRC Executive Team. The Executive Team encouraged Victoria to table papers to enact change, however the 2 papers tabled were unsuccessful due to not enough of votes of support.
- Each BRC is the best party to identify and communicate the needs of its members, and currently each member pays a fee to fund the NRC operations.
- Therefore, the proportion of the total votes each branch has should be reflective of the proportion of the members and funding.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Add into the NRC Bylaws “National Rover Council Remote Meeting Procedures”
- “6. Distribution of voting rights: Votes are determined by the percentage of national membership each branch makes up (based on the census used to determine the Levy for that year). The branch with the smallest membership is allocated 1 vote and allocation of voting rights are factored off this. This applies to all voting sessions of the NRC”.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC Secretary to update the Bylaws document on the One Drive and Website.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Branches with smaller memberships would have less of a voice. NRC exists to support BRC's - not individual Rovers – and each Branch has only 1 BRC therefore voting rights should be equal.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Proportional voting rights which reflect the portion of the budget each Branch contributes.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title	The NRC General Operations budget bill to be divided as a reflection of the voting weight at the table.
Information	
X Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment	Governance: This paper ensures that the way we finance governance is equally distributed.
Consultation	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Implementation period	March NRC remote meeting: paper passes. Concept applied to the NRC levy invoiced in 2022 (ie. the next bill).

KEY POINTS

- The outcomes of the NRC do not benefit grassroots Rovers, they benefit the members on the council and the Branch Councils.
- Therefore, as each Branch has equal representation on the NRC and therefore only equal access to benefits of the NRC, each Branch should be charged the same amount.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived “value for money” financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.
- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.
- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. Furthermore, the Review’s 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.
- In September 2021 the Victorian Region Chairs began investigating what NRC could provide to grassroots Rovers that was worth financially funding. The Region Chairs could not design any projects. It was then taken to the Regions to discuss within their individual teams and the feedback to the Region Chairs was that they could not come up with any NRC project ideas that benefited them, and the money could be better spent within the branch.
- In October 2021 the sentiment from Victorian Rovers that “there was nothing NRC has recently provided or could provide that would be of great benefit to them” was raised with the NRC Executive Team.

- As the purpose of the NRC is support Branch Rover Councils (not directly supporting grassroots Rovers) and each Branch Rover Council has the same weight in a vote then the cost of funding the NRC operations should be shared equally, not an amount “per Rover”.
- To equally share funding the current NRC budget would place significant financial burden on some states, and therefore this paper should be read in conjunction with all other proposed papers which aim to decrease the NRC operations budget or change the funding stream of the budget.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Amend the Bylaw 5.3.1 General Operating Account to read:
This fund facilitates the operating of the NRC.
 - a) A NRC Levy on Australian Rover Branches generates income to the operating account.
 - b) The NRC Levy is the same amount for all participating Australian Rover Branches.
 - c) Invoices for the NRC Levy will be sent to BRCs in August each year.
 - d) The NRC shall determine the amount of the NRC Levy and Moot Buddies contribution from time to time.
- *For reference (can be deleted from the paper once it has finished being discussed and before being tabled) Currently the bylaws read:*
- *5.3.1 General Operating Account*
This fund facilitates the operating of the NRC.
 - e) *A NRC Levy on all Australian Rover Scouts, including Rover Scouts who are Leaders in other sections, generates income to the operating account.*
 - f) *Invoices for the NRC Levy will be calculated based on the most recently finalised National Scout Census and sent to BRCs in August each year.*
 - g) *The NRC levy will increase by 2.5% each year according to the equation: Levy = \$7.50x (1.025)ⁿ per Rover Scout, where n is the number of years since 2020(i.e. n=[current year]-2020).*
 - h) *The NRC shall determine the amount of the NRC Levy and Moot Buddies contribution from time to time.*

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC Secretary to update the Bylaws document on the One Drive and Website.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	If the current NRC Operations budget does not change either the amount or the income streams the implications of this paper would be financially crippling to some branches – making grassroot Rovering not a financially viable hobby therefore decreasing their membership (actual and potential). This is mitigated by all Branches using their voting rights to ensure the NRC

	budget experiences change, and facilitated by other papers proposed by Victoria passing.
Milestones	<p>Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion.</p> <p>March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.</p> <p>March Remote meeting: Some other papers addressing the budget pass, to ensure the resulting NRC levy is affordable for all branches.</p>
Outcomes	An equal levy for Branches who have equal voting rights.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title		Financial participation in the NRC General Operations to be optional.
	Information	
X	Decision	
Document Author		Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment		<p>Program: Allowing branches to decide where Rovering fees are spent allows the branch to divert funding into projects targeted to the specific issues of that branch, therefore delivering the best program for that branch.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation		Victorian Region Chairs, Victorian Rover Commissioners, Victorian Grassroot Rovers. Opportunity made for other branches to provide feedback.
Implementation period		<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>March NRC remote meeting: branches can “opt out”.</p>

KEY POINTS

- The NRC Operational Account Expenditure consists of: NRC Conference Attendance, NRC Conference Travel, NRC Executive Meetings, Administration Support and Contingency. It is the Victorian opinion that these items do not benefit our grassroots Rovers.
- Financial participation in the NRC Operational Budget should be optional.
- Those branches who have opted-out of financial participation in the NRC Operational Account will become “non-financial” and lose rights already outlined in the NRC Bylaws.
- Branches who are paying the Moot Buddies Levy still have access to the Rover Development Fund.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived “value for money” financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.
- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.

- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. The Review's 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.
- The NRC Conference 2021 ran entirely online and showed promise of removing the cost of conference from the budget in future years, however this did not occur.
- In depth discussion amongst Victorian Region Chairs, Rover Commissioners and the VRC Executive began in October 2021. Consultation occurred with the NRC Executive where it was established that there was nothing NRC could provide to Victoria that justified a \$10,000 bill. NRC Executive advised Victoria to table papers to reduce the levy. The 2 papers Victoria tabled in subsequent months to address this failed.
- After the NRC Conference 2022, the Victorian delegation scrutinised the content and came to the verdict it did not justify an approx. \$25,000 budget. When reflecting on previous conferences (in particular the last 4 years of conference due to having easy access to conference attendees), no conference delivered significant outcomes to grassroots Rovers to justify the cost.
- In addition, national COVID restrictions have forced many teams to meet online including the NRC Executive. The previous 2 years have demonstrated that online meetings can be successful in achieving outcomes. Therefore, it is the Victorian opinion that NRC Executive meeting funding could be removed from the budget.
- The Victorian Region Chairs, Rover Commissioners and the VRC Executive do not believe participating in the Operational Account of the NRC is beneficial to their Rovers, therefore financial participation in this account should be optional.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Amend the NRC Bylaw 5.3.1 General Operating Account so it reads:
 - a) A NRC Levy on all Australian Rover Scouts *of participating branches*, including Rover Scouts who are Leaders in other sections, generates income to the operating account.
 - b) Invoices for the NRC Levy will be calculated based on the most recently finalised National Scout Census and sent to *participating* BRCs in August each year.
 - c) The NRC shall determine the amount of the NRC Levy and Moot Buddies contribution from time to time.
 - d) *Branches may opt-out of financial participation in the NRC Operating Account. This is considered as being a "non-financial member" in the Bylaws.*
- *For reference (can be deleted from the paper once it has finished being discussed) Currently the bylaws read:*
- *5.3.1 General Operating Account
This fund facilitates the operating of the NRC.*
 - a) *A NRC Levy on all Australian Rover Scouts, including Rover Scouts who are Leaders in other sections, generates income to the operating account.*
 - b) *Invoices for the NRC Levy will be calculated based on the most recently finalised National Scout Census and sent to BRCs in August each year.*

- c) The NRC levy will increase by 2.5% each year according to the equation: $Levy = \$7.50 \times (1.025)^n$ per Rover Scout, where n is the number of years since 2020 (i.e. $n = [current\ year] - 2020$).*
- d) The NRC shall determine the amount of the NRC Levy and Moot Buddies contribution from time to time.*

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC Secretary to update the Bylaws document on the One Drive and Website.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Some branches may opt-out of participating in the Operations Account therefore decreasing the income to the account. This is mitigated by changing the income stream for the account and/or decreasing the budget. Please refer to other papers authored by Victoria in the March 2022 Remote Meeting as to the clearly outlined step-by-step process to achieve this.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Reduced NRC levies for branches who don't want to be financial participants. Branches can invest grassroots rovers' money into projects with the best outcomes for grassroots rovers, to ensure Rovering is worth the financial cost. This ensures retention of current members and makes Rovering a financially attractive option to potential members; as a result growing our membership.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A

Item Title		Financial participation in the NRC's Rover Development Fund to be optional.
	Information	
X	Decision	
Document Author		Victorian Branch delegation to NRC.
Strategic Alignment		<p>Program: Allowing branches to decide where Rovering fees are spent allows the branch to divert funding into projects targeted to the specific issues of that branch, therefore delivering the best program for that branch.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation		Victorian Branch delegation to NRC and Victorian Region Chairs.
Implementation period		<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>March NRC remote meeting: branches can "opt out".</p>

KEY POINTS

- The NRC Rover Development Fund budget expenditure consists of Moot Buddies and Rover Challenge.
- Financial participation in the Rover Development Fund should be optional.
- Those branches who have opted-out of financial participation in the Rover Development Fund will lose access to Moot Buddies and Rover Challenge.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived "value for money" financial participation in the NRC.
- The underlying themes of these discussions is that Branch Councils are the best group to identify the financial needs of their grassroots rovers.
- Each Branch has different avenues of accessing financial support for grassroots rovers to attend events and complete projects. For example, Victorian Rovers have access to EML/NEAR fund and local council sports club grants.
- Due to significant difference between what Rovers in each state can access, branches should be able to opt-out of participation in the Rover Development Fund.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Amend Bylaws 5.3.2 The Rover Development Fund
 - a) The NEC is responsible for the Rover Development Fund, which is governed by a standing resolution of that body.
 - b) The Invoices for the Moot Buddies contribution will be calculated based on the most recently finalised National Scout Census and sent to **participating** BRCs in August each year.
 - c) The Moot Buddies contribution is maintained as a separate line item in the Rover Development Fund until a Moot year.
 - d) Branches that are not **participating in the RDF** cannot access funding from the Rover Development Fund with the exception of where a specific National Rover Council program has benefit to any individual or Unit.
 - e) **Branches may opt-out of participating in the Rover Development Fund.**
- *For reference (can be deleted from the paper once it has finished being discussed before being tabled) Currently the bylaws read:*

5.3.2 The Rover Development Fund

 - a) The NEC is responsible for the Rover Development Fund, which is governed by a standing resolution of that body.*
 - b) The Invoices for the Moot Buddies contribution will be calculated based on the most recently finalised National Scout Census and sent to BRCs in August each year.*
 - c) The Moot Buddies contribution is maintained as a separate line item in the Rover Development Fund until a Moot year.*
 - d) Branches that are not financial with the NRC cannot access funding from the Rover Development Fund with the exception of where a specific National Rover Council program has benefit to any individual or Unit.*

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	NRC Secretary to update the Bylaws document on the One Drive and Website.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Some branches may opt-out of participating in the RDF therefore decreasing the income to the account. This is mitigated by less Rovers being able to apply for the funding. As the amount available in grants is determined by the income the account will never be negative, rather there may be a lower pool to pull grants from.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Reduced NRC levies for branches who don't want to be financial participants. Branches can invest grassroots rovers' money into projects with the best outcomes for that rover, to ensure Rovering is worth the financial cost. This ensures retention of current members and makes Rovers a financially attractive option as a hobby.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title		NRC conference to be held entirely online with a \$0 budget.
	Information	
X	Decision	
Document Author		Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment		<p>Program: Allowing branches to decide where Rovering fees are spent allows the branch to divert funding into projects targeted to the specific issues of that branch, therefore delivering the best program for that branch.</p> <p>Marketing/Venturer Retention: A strong and affordable rover program encourages venturers to continue in the movement and join the Rover Section.</p>
Consultation		Victorian Region Chairs, Victorian Rover Commissioners, Victorian Grassroot Rovers. Opportunity made for other branches to provide feedback.
Implementation period		<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>2023 NRC conference held online.</p>

KEY POINTS

- The NRC Operational Account Expenditure consists of: NRC Conference Attendance, NRC Conference Travel, NRC Executive Meetings, Administration Support and Contingency. It is the Victorian opinion that the Conference and Executive Meetings do not benefit our grassroots Rovers and it is important that these items not be funded by grassroots rovers (ie. decrease the NRC levy).
- The conference can be successfully run online as seen in 2021 and 2022.
- This is a last resort paper if the NCR Levy cannot be reduced through: self-funding executive meetings, ticketing the conference with self-funded travel, levy is the same for all branches or optional participation in the General Operations Account.

BACKGROUND

- Extensive consultation has occurred within Victorian Rovers regarding the perceived “value for money” financial participation in the NRC.
- In 2014 concerns were raised about the role/purpose of the NRC and the lack of contribution to grassroots Rovers.
- As the levy increased over the years with membership growth and a change in funding model it prompted a discussion paper being tabled in 2019 within Victoria. It was decided to wait for the findings of the NRC External Review Team.

- Victoria holds the opinion the Review Findings did not address finances in enough depth. The Review's 16 recommendations entirely focus on the administration practices of the NRC as a council, and does not describe delivering value for grassroots Rovers or what the NRC should be delivering to the Rover members.
- The NRC Conference 2021 ran entirely online and showed promise of removing the cost of conference from the budget in future years, however this did not occur.
- In depth discussion amongst Victorian Region Chairs, Rover Commissioners and the VRC Executive began in October 2021. Consultation occurred with the NRC Executive where it was established that there was nothing NRC could provide to Victoria that justified a \$10,000 bill.
- After the NRC Conference 2022, the Victorian delegation scrutinised the content and came to the verdict it did not justify an approx. \$25,000 budget. When reflecting on previous conferences (in particular the last 4 years of conference due to having easy access to conference attendees), no conference delivered significant outcomes to grassroots Rovers to justify the cost.
- In addition, national COVID restrictions have forced many teams to meet online. The previous 2 years have demonstrated that online meetings can be successful in achieving outcomes.
- Therefore, it is the Victorian opinion that NRC Conference should not be funded by a Levy on all grassroots rovers and due to being unable to decide on a different funding stream, it should be held online with no cost/budget.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Hold all future NRC Conferences online with no budget.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	Nil.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	Less opportunities for NRC members to build soft skills and build relationships with other Branch Representatives.
Milestones	Early March: Papers distributed to all branches via email for early discussion. March Remote meeting: Paper discussed and voted on.
Outcomes	Reduction of NRC levy for all branches. Branches can invest grassroot rovers' money into projects with the best outcomes for grassroots rovers, to ensure Rovering is worth the financial cost. This ensures retention of current members and makes Rovering a financially attractive option to potential members; as a result growing our membership.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title	The NRC conference is open to all Rovers to attend.
Information	
X Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Strategic Alignment	<p>Representation: Inviting all Rovers to the Conference improves transparency on the function of the NRC. It also provides NRC/BRCs/external committees greater access to grassroots Rovers.</p> <p>Governance: More Rovers engaging with NRC reporting and strategic planning helps the NRC identify and meet the needs of the section and the grassroots Rovers understand the role of the NRC.</p> <p>Rover Training: More Rovers experience Conference means more Rovers benefiting from the soft skills and networking that come with being a Conference Participant.</p>
Consultation	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Implementation period	<p>March NRC remote meeting: paper passes.</p> <p>Implemented for 2023 & 2024 NRC Conference.</p> <p>Review period post 2024 Conference.</p>

KEY POINTS

- All Rovers/RAs should have the opportunity to participate in/observe all aspects of the NRC Conference.
- We should be opening face-to-face tickets for the general Rover population in addition to virtual registrations. This ensures the cost of conference tickets are affordable. This also ensure a greater number of Rovers experience the benefits of NRC Conference.

BACKGROUND

- The NRC External Review found grassroots Rovers have a poor understanding of the functions of the NRC and almost no engagement with NRC.
- When conducting research into benefits of NRC participation within the Victorian Rover population the only finding was that attending conference was beneficial for the individual Rover's soft skills and personal networking.
- A greater number of Rovers participating in NRC activities would increase engagement: therefore, meeting the strategic goals of the NRC and address multiple themes of the NRC External Review.
- Branch delegations now have the option to send almost all of their delegates virtually, therefore potentially reducing the number of face-to-face attendees, therefore driving up cost per attendee (taking into consideration things like venue hire have minimum cost, not per head fees).

- A greater number of Rover attendees would also distribute costs across a larger population keeping ticket costs affordable (please see paper about funding Conference off tickets).

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Open 2023 and 2024 NRC conferences to all Rovers.
- The organiser of the conference should determine the maximum number of face-to-face conference participants. Each branch shall be given the option of purchasing up to 5 priority tickets (2x voting parties, 2x observers, 1x Rover Commissioner). Other guests normally invited then can purchase tickets (ie. NRC Exec). Any tickets left over could be purchased by any Rover/Rover Advisor.
- Branches can participate entirely virtually to improve the accessibility of NRC engagement.
- Rovers/RAs can register to participate virtually (similar to 2022 Conference).
- Some aspects of the conference may be open to observe only (rather than being able to speak on the floor) for non-delegates, due to time restrictions (ie. if discussing a paper).

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian Branch Delegation.
Assists	Nil.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposals regarding changing the way NRC manages finances and finances themselves are currently not included on the Conference livestream. This is mitigated by not including “admin/process” papers at NRC Conference. The NRC budget should be accessible to all Rovers as Rovers/Scouts are a non-profit organisation and currently all Rovers are contributing their funds to the budget. 2. More people participating in conference discussions (ie. discussion of a paper) may drag out discussion taking up too much time. This is mitigated by implementing Recommendation 9 & 19 which advises that Conference focuses on Strategic Planning and Project reporting, not proposal papers. This is further mitigated by the paper proposing no process/admin papers at Conference. 3. Grassroots Rovers might not be interested to attend conference, and therefore not by tickets.
Milestones	<p>March: Paper is sent to branches for feedback.</p> <p>March Remote Meeting: Paper is discussed and voted on.</p> <p>Late 2022: Advertising NRC Conference to the grassroots Rover population begins and tickets open.</p> <p>2023/2024 Conferences: Conference is run with open attendance.</p>

	After 2024 Conference: Review occurs focusing on financial viability, number of grassroots Rovers attending and if projects are being delivered because of Conference (is there a point in Conference existing?).
Outcomes	The benefits of attending NRC Conference are accessible to a greater number of Rovers.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A.



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL
 NRC Remote Meeting
 [Date]

Item Title	No “process/admin” papers to be tabled/discussed at NRC Conference.	
	Information	
X	Decision	
Document Author	Victorian Branch Delegation.	
Strategic Alignment	Governance & Program: Reallocating discussion time of these type of papers to Remote Meetings allows this valuable face-to-face time to be better invested into projects that meet the needs of the Rover section. Contributes to implementation of External Review Recommendations 9 & 19.	
Consultation	Victorian Branch Delegation.	
Implementation period	March NRC remote meeting: paper passes. Implemented for 2023 & 2024 NRC Conference. Review period post 2024 Conference.	

KEY POINTS

- Process/admin type papers about how the NRC functions internally do not have any benefit to grassroots Rovers. Currently grassroots Rovers pay for the Conference.
- These papers should not take up valuable conference time, instead be restricted to Remote Meetings.

BACKGROUND

- After the NRC Conference 2022, the Victorian delegation scrutinised the content and were disappointed that all papers discussed were admin-type papers which impacted internal changes with NRC, rather than projects with a strong focus on delivering for grassroots Rovers.
- When reflecting on previous conferences (in particular the last 4 years of conference due to having easy access to conference attendees), no conference delivered significant outcomes to grassroots Rovers, especially not when the cost of conference is considered.
- These papers should not take up valuable conference time, instead time allocation should be restricted to Remote Meetings.
- As these papers focus on changes in internal procedures, they are unlikely to require urgent attention and could wait for a Remote Meeting.
- This aligns with Recommendations from the NRC External Review.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Do not schedule a place in the 2023 Agenda for proposing papers that focus on the internal processes of the NRC.
- If Branches are unsure whether their paper fits this criterion, they should consult the NRC Executive team.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian delegation to NRC.
Assists	Nil.
Cost	Nil cost.
Risks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conference doesn't have enough content to fill the void when these papers are excluded from the agenda. This is mitigated by a Rover putting more time into organising the agenda to bring in more external parties/workshops and project delivery. Hopefully, a member/s dedicated to the NRC Conference (see External Review Recommendation 11) will have the time to organise this. 2. Should the 2023 Conference not be able to fill this gap in the agenda and not facilitate any productive discussion the viability of running conference should be re-considered.
Milestones	<p>March: Paper is sent to branches for feedback.</p> <p>March Remote Meeting: Paper is discussed and voted on.</p> <p>2023/2024 Conferences: Conference is run with open attendance.</p> <p>After 2024 Conference: Review occurs.</p>
Outcomes	The value of running a NRC Conference is maximised by ensuring an agenda which takes full advantage of having a large number of Rovers together (and accessible), and does not waste time on papers which could successfully discussed in a remote meeting.

AMENDMENTS

- N/A



SCOUTS VICTORIA

Victorian Rover Council



[26/01/22]

Item Title		VRC to become non-financial members of the National Rover Council (NRC).
	Information	
	Discussion	
X	Decision	
Document Author		<p>Gemma Park (Mt Dandenong Region Chair, NRC delegate)</p> <p>Nathan Box (Plenty Valley Region Chair)</p> <p>Rachael Osborne (Bays Region Chair)</p> <p>Tiffanie Thomas (Melbourne Region Chair)</p> <p>Lily Twyford (South West Region Chair)</p> <p>Wil Sumbler (Lerderderg Region Chair)</p> <p>Justin Porter (Gippsland Region Chair)</p> <p>Travis Elliot (Murray Midlands Region Chair)</p> <p>Hamish Beshara (VRC Deputy Chair)</p>
Strategic Alignment		<p>Logistics: This paper aims to increase the benefit each rover receives from their fees.</p> <p>Governance: This paper aims to hold NRC accountable for where they are spending the budget and ensuring they are delivering a budget that is in the best interest of Victorian Rovers, and therefore promoting a culture of delivering on responsibilities and being responsive to the needs of current rovers.</p>
Consultation		<p>Discussion topic raised informally (due to incorrect use of templates and procedure) to Mt Dandenong Region and VRC in 2020.</p> <p>Informal consultation over the past 12 months at all levels of Rovers (through different papers/discussions proposed by different rovers).</p> <p>Formal consultation with NRC exec Oct 2021.</p> <p>Formal consultation with Region Chairs Sept-Oct 2021.</p> <p>Victorian delegation to NRC conference 2022 debrief.</p>
Implementation Period		<p>Jan VRC meeting: Paper tabled.</p> <p>Feb region meetings: Discuss with your region.</p> <p>Feb VRC meeting: Further discussion which should include the Chief Commissioner given the potential ramifications. The Chief Commissioner was unable to provide support of this paper in the current form.</p> <p>March region meetings: Vote.</p> <p>March VRC meeting: Vote.</p> <p>March: Victorian 'NRC Levy Payment Plan' due date (31st March 2022).</p>

KEY POINTS

- Victorian Rovers currently do not receive “value for money” from their financial membership to NRC.
- VRC should become non-financial members of NRC.

BACKGROUND

- Informal discussion has been occurring for the last 3 years (minimum) about “value for money” of NRC given the expensive bill Victoria receives.
- Victoria was supportive of an external review to NRC being conducted and was hopeful the outcomes would rectify the “value for money” concerns. The conversations around this topic were postponed until the review was published.
- A formal external review team was formed, and after a couple of years they delivered a report. That report didn't discuss “money” in detail.
- Victoria's Levy bill has significantly increased over the last few years. The current bill is \$10,323 of which we have paid 2 instalments (\$5161).
- VRC are currently funding this bill through major events (ie. it's reflected ticket prices). A previous attempt to change the way we fund the VRC budget was unsuccessful, but if this paper is successful this would stimulate this discussion being re-visited.
- Region Chairs had a meeting with NRC exec expressing the concerns of grassroots rovers and NRC membership “value for money”. They were told NRC exec could not directly assist them, and informed VRC should table papers at NRC.
- Victoria attempted to table papers and encountered difficulties, as outlined in ‘NRC Delegate Report January VRC 2022’.
- While small changes have occurred at NRC conference it is not significant at addressing both aspects of “value for money”, as outlined in ‘NRC Delegate Report January VRC 2022’.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Victorian Rover Council:

- Do not pay the remaining instalments of this years NRC levy payment plan (next payment due March 31st 2022).
- Continue to remain non-financial members of NRC until a VRC paper is passed to change our NRC relationship to “financial members”.
- Notify the NRC Executive and other BRCs of the decision and the reasoning behind it.
- Continue to actively engage with NRC as non-financial members.
- VRC Financial team to conduct a review of the budget (due to changes in expenditure) and facilitate discussion with VRC about what to do about the difference (for example: decrease the amount we bill major events (therefore ticket prices) or reinvest into a VRC project like MPAC).
- Review the “value for money” of NRC financial membership at the conclusion of each NRC conference. Discussion should be facilitated by NRC delegate and VRC Chair.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Lead	Victorian Representatives at NRC: NRC Delegate and VRC Chair
Assists	VRC financial team
Cost	Nil cost in implementing this paper.

Risks	<p>i) Victoria doesn't have voting rights at NRC and therefore might be unable to have input on a major decision.</p> <p>a. Mitigation: Speak with other branches about the change and have them vote in a way that benefits all branches (including Victoria).</p> <p>b. Mitigation: After speaking with Peter Wotherspoon and Andrew (immediate past NRC delegate) there are no examples of decisions at NRC that could have serious ramifications for Victorian Rovers. This was reflected at NRC conference 2022 where only "procedure" papers were discussed – no "product" papers.</p> <p>ii) When it is time to become financial members of NRC again, NRC may ask for all previous years bills to be paid.</p> <p>a. Mitigation: a negotiation would occur a few years in the future, and we cannot confirm what will occur, however current VRC delegates feel positive that it would be unreasonable for NRC to ask for a full repayment when they have in excess of \$100,000 surplus in their Operational Account (excludes Rover Development Fund). For example, in 3 years time the Victorian bill may be approx. \$30,000; to ask for all of that back when they currently have \$108,000 in the account wouldn't align with the goals of Rovering.</p> <p>iii) Victorians no longer have access to Moot Buddies or Rover Development Fund Grants.</p> <p>a. Last Australian Moot had \$0 given to Victorian Rovers for Moot Buddies. It is unclear if there were any applicants as that data has previously been kept confidential.</p> <p>b. There is space in the VRC budget to run our own Development Grant/Moot buddies.</p> <p>c. Victorian Rovers have access to EML/NEAR funding.</p>
Milestones	<p>March VRC: Paper passes.</p> <p>Before March 31st 2022: NRC/BRCs notified via formal letter.</p> <p>At a time deemed appropriate by the VRC financial team: budget is reviewed.</p> <p>Post NRC conference 2023: VRC's type of NRC membership is formally reviewed by VRC.</p>
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria is still engaging with and providing feedback to NRC/other branches. • A decrease in expenditure of the VRC budget. The amount of savings would start at \$5161 this year, and be between \$7000-\$12,000 per subsequent year. • VRC wouldn't be paying fees while NRC undergoes development to provide more benefit to Victorians. • It is anticipated that once NRC has completed its development the operating budget would be significantly lower, and consequently the VRC bill would be much lower.

AMENDMENTS

- For Feb VRC meeting: Additional co-authors added as they expressed their support of the paper.

- For March VRC meeting: The Chief Commissioner provided feedback at the Feb VRC meeting that he was unable to provide support of this paper in the current form.
- For March VRC meeting: To postpone voting of this paper until April to see if the outcomes of this paper can be achieved through passing papers through NRC at the April NRC Remote Meeting.

Metropolitan Area Rover Ball

Theme to be announced

Saturday 17th September, 2022



Introduction

The Metropolitan Area Rover Ball (MARB) is just one of Victorian Rovers major annual events. Although much smaller than Surfmoot and Mudbash, it tends to attract around 200 people sometimes including interstate or even international Rovers. Each year has a different theme decided upon by the committee to try and challenge Rover units to come together and dress up following said theme. In an attempt to make it fair to as much of the state as possible the location of the event also changes from year to year.

This year will be no different with a new and exciting theme already in the works and a new location that some Rovers may find familiar. Travelling to this year's event has also been taken into consideration as it will be a short walk from the nearest train station.

We (the committee) are looking forward to running a great event and hope to see plenty of Rovers attend. We have already started working hard to plan a great night and look forward to seeing the final result.

Budget Breakdown

Income:

Ticketing

- Tickets this year have had to be raised back up to \$70 for presold with the \$5 increase for late tickets remaining. This is due to an increase in facility costs.
- In order to remain conservative, the only income from ticket sales we are accounting for will be the 200 presold tickets. RA tickets will also be available for half the price of participants but have not been counted in the income to break even.
- Unfortunately due to there being no event since 2019 we have found it difficult to base our budget off previous event actuals. It does however closely follow the previous year's budgets which I believe were written very well with little chance of losing profits.

Bar

- The budget for the bar is not contributing to any profit the event makes. This will ensure bar prices are affordable for all Rovers and offers the lowest possible prices on drinks during the night.
- There is \$12pp income listed, but that zeros out with \$12pp expenditure listed further down.

Expenditure

Venue

- The price of the venue for this year has increased compared to the 2021 event. This is the main reason the ticket prices have had to be raised by \$5 and also why the variance between budgets is above 50%.
- Security costs have remained the same for the moment and we believe should be more than enough to cover the cost of any security we have to hire for the event.

Entertainment

- Due to additional costs for things like venue, first aid, and COVID safe measures we have had to drop the budget for entertainment this year. However, we believe the current figure where it stands is enough to provide the same quality we always do.

Bar

- As mentioned earlier, drink prices have remained at \$12pp following the same costs allocated to the 2021 event budget. Due to the close proximity in terms of dates for both events, MARB 2022 is willing to purchase any left over drinks that didn't sell on the night from MARB 2021.
- Liquor licences vary in price and have been set for the highest price bracket.

Catering

- Due to issues previously with trying to find an appropriate quote for the event while not going over budget, catering has been increased by \$200 (7%) compared to the previous event. This should ensure that all catering needs can be met and will provide a little more leeway where required. Food shall remain as platters of canapes at this stage.
- An additional line has been added for committee catering this year. This way the income from committee tickets zeros out and we know where the money is spent along with making sure it doesn't contribute to making the event break even.

Appropriations

- As MARB appropriations are a 40% profit percentage, it does not appear as an expenditure line item in the budget. This line item will be added at after the event has concluded in the actuals.

Closing Statement

The 2022 MARB committee have already started working hard to make sure this event is one to remember. Like it's predecessor we have also tried to maintain low costs for maximum affordability.

If you would like a member of our team to speak to this budget at your Region meeting, please don't hesitate to contact the team at marb@vicrovers.com.au

Please send all feedback to chairman@marb.com.au by the 13th of March 2022; this will provide us with enough time to make any necessary adjustments before this budget comes up for voting at the March VRC meeting.

Scaled Summary

As seen in the attached scaled summary report, as our attendance increases, our profit margin also increases. The intention for this is to be reinvested back into the event, to make it bigger and better for all participants. The key areas of focus for reinvestment will be the entertainment, decorations/activities, and catering line items; as these are the main areas of value seen by our participants.

MARB Budget for 2022												
	Budget 2022				Variance	Budget 2021			Budget for 2020			
Income												
Tickets	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total		
Presold	\$	70.00	200	\$ 14,000.00	7%	\$	65.00	200	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 65.00	200	\$ 13,000.00
Late/Gate	\$	75.00	0	\$ -	0%	\$	70.00	0	\$ -	\$ 70.00	0	\$ -
Committee Tickets	\$	20.00	10	\$ 200.00	-30%	\$	20.00	13	\$ 260.00	\$ 20.00	10	\$ 200.00
Service	\$	20.00	0	\$ -	0%	\$	20.00	5	\$ 100.00	\$ 20.00	5	\$ 100.00
RA Tickets	\$	35.00	0	\$ -	0%	\$	32.50	0	\$ -	\$ -		
Special Tickets	\$	-	0	\$ -	0%	\$	-	0	\$ -	\$ -		
Discount Ticket	\$	-	0	\$ -	0%	\$	-	0	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -
Total		210	\$ 14,200.00			218	\$ 13,360.00		215	\$ 13,300.00		
Bar	\$	Qty	Total		\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total		
Float	\$	300.00	1	\$ 300.00	0%	\$	300.00	1	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	1	\$ 300.00
Drinks	\$	12.00	200	\$ 2,400.00	0%	\$	12.00	200	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 12.00	215	\$ 2,580.00
Others	\$	-	0	\$ -	0%	\$	-	0	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -
Total			\$ 2,700.00				\$ 2,700.00		216	\$ 2,880.00		
Committee payments	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total		
Committee Merchandise	\$	45.00	10	\$ 450.00	-30%	\$	45.00	13	\$ 585.00	\$ 45.00	10	\$ 450.00
Total			\$ 450.00				\$ 585.00		10	\$ 450.00		
Venue	\$	Qty	Total		\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total		
Bond return	\$	1,500.00	1	\$ 1,500.00	20%	\$	1,194.00	1	\$ 1,194.00	\$ 2,000.00	1	\$ 2,000.00
Total			\$ 1,500.00				\$ 1,194.00		1	\$ 2,000.00		
Total Income			\$ 18,850.00				\$ 17,839.00			\$ 19,130.00		

Expenses										
Venue	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Venue Hire	\$ 2,552.00	1	\$ 2,552.00	54%	\$ 1,164.00	1	\$ 1,164.00	\$ 2,550.00	1	\$ 2,550.00
Venue Bond	\$ 1,500.00	1	\$ 1,500.00	20%	\$ 1,194.00	1	\$ 1,194.00	\$ 2,000.00	1	\$ 2,000.00
Security	\$ 343.00	3	\$ 1,029.00	0%	\$ 343.00	3	\$ 1,029.00	\$ 343.00	2	\$ 686.00
Total			\$ 5,081.00				\$ 3,387.00			\$ 5,236.00
Entertainment	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Audio	\$ 1,100.00	1	\$ 1,100.00	-9%	\$ 1,200.00	1	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,100.00	1	\$ 1,100.00
Lighting	\$ 1,100.00	1	\$ 1,100.00	-9%	\$ 1,200.00	1	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,100.00	1	\$ 1,100.00
Talent	\$ 1,500.00	1	\$ 1,500.00	-7%	\$ 1,600.00	1	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	1	\$ 1,600.00
Trucks/Misc	\$ 1,000.00	1	\$ 1,000.00	0%	\$ 1,000.00	1	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	1	\$ 1,000.00
Total			\$ 4,700.00				\$ 5,000.00		4	\$ 4,800.00
Bar	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Drinks	\$ 12.00	200	\$ 2,400.00	0%	\$ 12.00	200	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 12.00	215	\$ 2,580.00
Bar Float	\$ 300.00	1	\$ 300.00	0%	\$ 300.00	1	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	1	\$ 300.00
Liquor Licence	\$ 70.00	1	\$ 70.00	0%	\$ 70.00	1	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	1	\$ 70.00
Bar Materials	\$ 20.00	1	\$ 20.00	0%	\$ 20.00	1	\$ 20.00	\$ 80.00	1	\$ 80.00
Total			\$ 2,790.00				\$ 2,790.00			\$ 3,030.00
Catering	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Catering	\$ 15.00	200	\$ 3,000.00	7%	\$ 14.00	200	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 16.00	215	\$ 3,440.00
Committee Catering	\$ 20.00	10	\$ 200.00	100%						
Total			\$ 3,000.00				\$ 2,800.00		215	\$ 3,440.00
Promotions	\$	Qty	Total	%	\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
General	\$ 0.50	200	\$ 100.00	-80%	\$ 0.90	200	\$ 180.00	\$ 0.90	215	\$ 193.50
Event Gift	\$ 4.00	250	\$ 1,000.00	-38%	\$ 5.50	250	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 3.51	250	\$ 877.50
Design Set up	\$ 82.50	1	\$ 82.50	0%	\$ 82.50	1	\$ 82.50	\$ 82.50	1	\$ 82.50
Delivery	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00	0%	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
Committee Jumpers	\$ 45.00	10	\$ 450.00	-30%	\$ 45.00	13	\$ 585.00	\$ 45.00	10	\$ 450.00
Banner	\$ -	0	\$ -	0%	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ 150.00	1	\$ 150.00
Business Cards	\$ -	0	\$ -	0%	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Total			\$ 1,732.50				\$ 2,322.50			\$ 1,253.50
Others	\$	Qty	Total		\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Decorations	\$ 1.50	200	\$ 300.00	0%	\$ 1.50	200	\$ 300.00	\$ 1.50	215	\$ 322.50
Admin	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00	0%	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
Audit Fees	\$ 30.00	1	\$ 30.00	0%	\$ 30.00	1	\$ 30.00	\$ 60.00	1	\$ 60.00
COVID safe measures	\$ 0.50	200	\$ 100.00	0%	\$ 0.50	200	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0	\$ -
First Aid	\$ 0.50	200	\$ 100.00	-7%	\$ 0.50	213	\$ 106.50	\$ -	0	\$ -
Total			\$ 630.00				\$ 636.50			\$ 482.50
Sqaure	\$	Qty	Total		\$	Qty	Total	\$	Qty	Total
Square Payment Service Charge	\$ -	0	\$ -	0%	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -
Total			\$ -				\$ -			\$ -
VRC Advance										
VRC Advance	\$ -	0	\$ -	0%	\$ -	0	\$ -			
Total			\$ -				\$ -			
Total Expenses			\$ 18,133.50				\$ 16,936.00			\$ 18,242.00
Total Income			\$ 18,850.00				\$ 17,839.00			\$ 19,130.00
Total Expense			\$ 18,133.50				\$ 16,936.00			\$ 18,242.00
Final Net Result			\$ 716.50				\$ 903.00			\$ 888.00

Scaled Summary									
Budget for 2022									
Income	\$	Qty	Total	Qty	Total	Qty	Total	Qty	Total
Presold	\$	70.00	250 \$ 17,500.00	225	\$ 15,750.00	200	\$ 14,000.00	175	\$ 12,250.00
Late/Gate	\$	75.00	0 \$ -	0	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Committee Tickets	\$	20.00	10 \$ 200.00	10	\$ 200.00	10	\$ 200.00	10	\$ 200.00
Service	\$	20.00	0 \$ -	0	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Bar			\$ 3,300.00		\$ 3,000.00		\$ 2,700.00		\$ 2,400.00
Committee payments			\$ 450.00		\$ 450.00		\$ 450.00		\$ 450.00
Venue			\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
Fundrasing			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
VRC Advance			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Total Income			\$ 22,950.00	Total	\$ 20,900.00	Total	\$ 18,850.00	Total	\$ 16,800.00
Expenses	\$	Qty	Total	Qty	Total	Qty	Total	Qty	Total
Venue			\$ 5,081.00		\$ 5,081.00		\$ 5,081.00		\$ 5,081.00
Entertainment			\$ 4,700.00		\$ 4,700.00		\$ 4,700.00		\$ 4,700.00
Bar			\$ 3,390.00		\$ 3,090.00		\$ 2,790.00		\$ 2,490.00
Catering	\$	15.00	250 \$ 3,750.00	225	\$ 3,375.00	200	\$ 3,000.00	175	\$ 2,625.00
Fundrasing			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Promotions			\$ 1,732.50		\$ 1,732.50		\$ 1,732.50		\$ 1,732.50
Others			\$ 630.00		\$ 630.00		\$ 630.00		\$ 630.00
Square			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -



SCOUTS VICTORIA
Victorian Rover Council
[20/03/2022]

**Rover
Scouts**
VICTORIA

Item Title	<i>Rover Levy</i>
Information	
X Discussion	
Decision	
Document Author	<i>Matthew Barnes</i>
Strategic Alignment	<i>Governance – To Review and implement change to the Rover Section in a way that will directly impact every single Victorian Rover</i>
Consultation	<i>VRC Executive, VRC Finance Team, Region Teams</i>
Implementation Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March - Paper tabled at VRC for discussion • April - Regions to begin consultation and provide feedback • May - VRC to vote on decision to adopt the proposed levy into Policy • June - Rover levy implemented by VRC

KEY POINTS

- *This proposed model would mean that every Victorian Rover would be contributing to the operations rather than just those who currently attend our events or assets. This would ensure equity across the Section. Currently some Rovers do not, as a result of current arrangements, pay their National Rover Council levy.*
- *It is proposed to introduce a levy on all Rovers of \$15 per annum*
- *Each Unit would be Invoiced according to the number of people in their Unit. (Example, a Unit of 10 people would be invoiced \$150, compared to a Unit of 5 which would only be Invoiced \$75*
- *Unit Advisers, Region and State Support Commissioners will also be levied. These Invoices would go to relevant team.*
- *Appropriations on events would be removed and assets would contribute a lesser amount.*
- *Through this levy, the VRC could now provide-a cheaper program for all Rovers. Appropriations would reduce to the following;*
- *Surfmoot and Mudbash would drop from \$5,000 to \$0*
- *MARB and RSM would move to paying \$0*
- *W.F Waters Chalet and Bogong Chalet would drop from \$5,000 to \$1,000*
- *Mafeking would remain at \$1,000*

The expectation of removing appropriations is that we can make our events cheaper to grass roots Rovers. We can make attending our assets cheaper for all Rovers. The reasoning behind still charging assets appropriations is that part of their income comes from external hirers, therefore its not a tax to Rovers.

BACKGROUND

- *VRC Income Is currently \$22,500 of which roughly \$22,000 comes from Subcommittee Appropriations*
- *VRC Expenditure Is currently \$21,500. Roughly \$11,000 goes assorted NRC fees.*
- *For a number of years, we have been looking at ways to drop the prices of events, or how we could put more money back Into the Rover Program.*
- *The current model of funding through appropriations means that only the Rovers who attend events or assets are paying for the operations of the VRC. An example would be, If someone attends a Surfmoot, Mudbash and goes to Baw Baw weekend they are contributing to the VRC operations 3 times.*

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Victorian Rover Council:

That the VRC endorses the below statement into policy

- *“The Introduction over a Rover levy at a cost of \$15 per Rover. An Invoice will be sent out to every Unit on July 1st which is composed of current Unit numbers as of April 30th Census numbers. The Invoice will be generated through the VRC and will be payable to the Victorian Rover Council. It will be the responsibility of the Region teams to ensure that Units are paying this levy. Once received the Unit will have 6 weeks to pay the Invoice. If a Unit fails to pay the Invoice, the entire Unit will be deemed as unfinancial within the Rover Section. This means that any member of that Unit cannot attend any Rover event external to their Unit or go on to hold any further roles within Rovers outside their Unit. The levy will be reviewed by the VRC Finance Team annually in open meeting and be announced by the May VRC. Uncrewed Rovers” who show on Region lists (except for Venturers), should be identified against a Unit. Where this has not happened, the Region will be invoiced for the levy”*

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

Lead	<i>VRC Executive</i>
Assists	<i>VRC Finance Team</i>
Cost	<i>Nil, We already have the infrastructure to support required to Implement this</i>
Risks	
Milestones	<i>Initial 12 Months Milestones</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Levy approved May VRC 2022</i> • <i>Implemented June 2022</i> • <i>Invoices paid August 2022</i> • <i>Levy review March 2023</i> • <i>Levy for 2023-2024 announced May 20223</i>
Outcomes	The Rover levy is an effective method of funding VRC operations in a more equitable manner, where all Victorian Rovers are responsible for contributing to operating costs. The average Rover will receive the benefit of cheaper event ticket prices resulting from one annual payment.

AMENDMENTS



SCOUTS VICTORIA

Victorian Rover Council

[23/03/2022]

Item Title	Western Scout Region Merger - Proposed Rover Region Border Changes	
Information		
Discussion		
Decision		
Document Author	South West Chair	
Strategic Alignment	Logistics	
Consultation	Unit Leaders, Unit meetings, Region Meetings, Region Chairs Meetings, VRC	
Implementation Period	November 2021 - Tabled December 2021 (SW) & February 2022 (MM)- Voted on - Passed March - Tabled to VRC January - May 2022 - Necessary accomodations July 1st 2022- Official transition	

KEY POINTS

- South West is comprised of both Geelong and West Coast scout regions, and Murray midlands is comprised of Loddon Mallee, Northern and, Western.
- This proposal states that Western Scout Region would move from being within Murray Midlands to South West Rover Region - moving the rover region boundaries.
- The regions would be much more proportional and make more sense geographically.
- This proposal greatly benefits South West by increasing unit diversity but also at region events and in general more options for communications and activities.
- This proposal greatly benefits Murray Midlands by decreasing the strain on region as they would have less rovers to worry about but also their units would be less distanced and easier to manage.

BACKGROUND

- Rover regions are based on scout regions however due to smaller populations, many of the country regions are comprised of multiple scout regions.
- These divisions were originally made to be proportional as they were based on rover density, however that is not the case anymore and there is a big discrepancy in numbers between the country regions.
- Not be splitting up the districts, this would be a complete scout region transfer.

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Region:

- Acknowledge that both regions have successfully tabled and voted to incorporate Western Scout Region into South West Rover Region.
- Change any state related documents including digital to reflect these changes as of July 1st 2022.