

Sydney North Region June RRC Minutes

For meeting held on the 14th June at

2nd Gordan Scout Hall

1. Opening

1.1. Attendance

<i>Epping: Jake Hardwick, Ben Butcher, Jason Forbes, Emma Forbes, Jonathan Dela, Josie Ye</i>	<i>Asquith: Evan Whitehead, Luke Laverton (SRC Delegate), Robert Laverton</i>	<i>Forest: Darcey Hawkins, Henry Marsden (Activities – Adventurous), Lochie Brisebois, Daniel Quayin, Iain Mackinnon (RA)</i>	<i>Gordon: Alex Duck, Ethan McGregor</i>
<i>Kananga: Sam Marinovich (Asst Chair), Aiden Barker, Allie Waters Whitesell, Jonah Richarson</i>	<i>Kissing Point: Nick Cappetta (Secretary) Tom Bury (Chair) EJ Reeve Charlie Jonhston Hunter Jackson</i>	<i>MCMK:</i>	<i>Normanhurst: Blade Puckeridge (SRC Delegate), Meg Brown, Eloise Smith, Nathan Carey, Emma Rogers, Tamara Dudfield, Owen Simpson (Brush Park)</i>
<i>Platabeen: Hamish, Jacqueline Berthold, Brandon Pucker, Anna Butler, Josephine Buter, Max Arens (SRC Delegate)</i>	<i>Turramurra: Patrick K Kasemrungchaikit, Victor Da (Training), Ella Pitman</i>	<i>Yaralla: Aaron Hamerling (Merchandise),</i>	<i>RC-R: Elyse Versace</i>
<i>ARC-R: Pete Dean</i>	Special Guests: Emilia Ertanin (VOC 2), Richard Hughes-Narborough (Region Commissioner), Charles Turner (Deputy Regional Commissioner)		

1.2. Apologies

1.3. Meeting Opened: 19:14

2. Previous Minutes

2.1. Acceptance of previous minutes

Accepted by Patrick Kasemrungchaikit

2.2. Business arising

Nil

3. Safety Items



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3.1 Work health and safety Cord next to the projector (tripping hazard)

3.2 Child safety concerns

Nil

4. Executive Reports

4.1. Chair – Tom Bury

- Best Activity: Turramurra (Caving course & Rigging and rescue)
- Best Service: Kananga (Beacon Hill Hall clean up)
- Best Attendance at last RRC: Forest

These first few months of the Rover year have absolutely flown by! It's weird to think that we only have 6 months left of 2026, and as per usual Sydney North Rovers have been getting out and about which has been amazing to see!

Rovers give back to the younger sections of Scouting, and Sydney North Rovers participation on VOC 2 at Dragon Skin and Sleep Point 6 at ScoutHike remain annual highlights for us. A big thank you to everyone who attending and help out in whatever capacity you could, and a big BRAVO to those Rovers to took charge of either running a VOC/Sleep Point, or helped out in whatever way they could! These events are good starting points to gain connection with Venturers especially, so I hope that all Units are continuing to keep in contact with them post event.

We also held our Unit Leader Bi-Annual Meeting (formally CLBAM) which had many great discussion points come out from it on how the RRC Executive and help our Units. Discussions included Rover and Venturer relations, training, merchandise, alcohol permissions and general interest for the next National Moot, being held in Western Australia at the end of this year/start of 2027.

On the topic of Rover/Venturer relations, Jacqueline, Elyse and I met with the Regional Commissioner - Venturers, Liam Painter to discuss how we can work together to bring more Venturers into Rovers this year. With this point, I would encourage you to continue to have joint nights, and work with your fellow Rover Units within your District (or potentially beyond your District walls) to make sure that a) Venturers go into Rovers, and b) they can find the best Rover Unit for them! We have a follow up meeting with Liam in July/August to make sure we can continue to support everyone.

A few weeks ago I attended the RRC Chairs meeting, which is a meeting held by the State Rover Council Chair & Vice Chair with all of the RRC chairs in NSW, to discuss important issues at hand. One of/the only topic that was asked of me by my executive to raise at that meeting was where the current alcohol permissions system is at. At that meeting, I was told by Leigh (Current SRC Chair & State Commissioner - Rovers) that this phase has not moved since October, still sitting with the Operations, Compliance and Risk staff at the Scouts NSW State Office. I encouraged Leigh to continue to push this with weekly emails to these staff members to get the ball moving again, as I believe this step being



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with the OC&R team for 6+ months is really unacceptable. I will continue to push this with our SRC Executive team, and hopefully receive an outcome soon.

As you would have seen, the Scouts NSW Board announced Bel Howell as the interim Chief Commissioner of Scouts NSW, replacing Llyod Nurthen who finished his term earlier this year. While the appointment is still in the interim stage, we anticipate that Bel will be announced as the fully-fledged Chief Commissioner in due course. Should this be the case, I hope that we and the SRC can work with Bel and her team to make Rovering the best it has ever been.

The SRC/Rovers NSW Rover Recognition Awards (an award for individuals) and the Quality Rovering Awards (an award for Rover Units) are now accepting Nominations. To say that Sydney North have some incredible Rovers, and some even better Rover Units is an understatement, so I encourage you to nominate your Unit, or a fellow Rover who you believe is fully deserving of this award. Please reach out to your Unit Leader or myself should you require any more information on how to submit a nomination on this.

Finally, our Training Officer role on our RRC Executive team is still vacant. We will be calling for nominations during RRC for that role. Training within the Rover section is super unique, as we are the only youth section that has a self governing body, fully embracing that 'youth led, adult supported' motto. Taking on a role within the RRC Executive is extremely rewarding, and you will have the support network around you to experience the next level of Rover governance, and ultimately be successful in the role.

That's enough from me. I look forward to seeing what everyone gets up to as we start to embrace the winter season once again.

4.2. **Assistant-Chair** – Sam Marinovich

It's been awesome to see some of the cool stuff all of the Units have been doing, whether it's the big events like Dragon Skin, Anzac Day and Scout Hike, or just interesting regular program nights. In lieu of a Training Officer, and an email I sent ULs, RAs and Exec, I just would like to reiterate some stuff that I have already pumped out. As a section, we have worked hard to make Training recognise that Rovers are participants of the Program, and as such we have gotten the Shorter Scouting Essentials course. It makes me sad when I hear from the Training Team (in my state hat), or from Rovers that they are taking the full course - some cases may be legitimate, but some cases seem like laziness / Units needing help. We have worked hard to have this course, and if we aren't going to use it, then we will eventually lose it. If you have any concerns with the Course, whether you are unsure if you meet the entrance, or need a bit of help sorting stuff I'm always happy to help. This doesn't just have to be Training, always happy to come and lend a hand if you need. In a more Assistant Chair hat, we have officially killed the



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Moccaburra Rover Unit project - with only 2 members remaining who have reregistered with Epping back in April. As such, we have deactivated registrations on ScoutHub, with plans to switch it off so we don't get charged for it. I am looking aiming to look at approaching this in another view, as a more "exposure method" for the Venturers in the area, before we attempt to actually register another formation in the area. For those who were observant at Dragon Skin, we had Brush Park Rovers run a base (and take out a VOC award). They are mostly registered as Normanhurst Rovers now, with aims to check in over the next month or so, to see how we can push them towards independence. If you've got any concerns about anything, or want a hand, I'm always happy to come out and provide some input. Please don't be afraid to reach out :)

4.3. **Secretary** – Nick Cappetta

Nothing to report

4.4. **Treasurer** – Jonathan Dellagiacoma

FUNDS:

Main account:

30 163.44 (pending payment to Wara Wara account)

This time last year: 27 555.47

Development fund:

\$25 055.47

MAIN REPORT:

Signatory transfer has been a hassle. It's mostly done, just need to make sure Nick can approve payments.

A payment of \$996 from Stripe for reasons unknown to me.

I've got some creative ideas for visualising our expenses, but haven't had enough time due to Summer Moot 2027 preparations.

A huge thank you to Malcolm and Robyn Yates, who have once again donated \$20 000 to SNR for the Wara Wara Trust.

[RRC EXEC SPECIFIC:

I suggest making a thankyou video, ideally with a past awardee showing how valuable it's been for them.

A payment of \$996 from Stripe for reasons unknown to me.]

Payments to be processed ideally tonight over Netbank (needs to be in person with other signatories) as it doesn't charge a fee unlike Combizz.

Looking forward to processing Scouthike SP6 VOC4 reimbursements!

4.5. **Public Relations Coordinator** – Harley Bryant

Compass has been submitted, please keep an eye out and have a read of the Rover section. Feedback is appreciated. We haven't had much follower growth since last meeting but hopefully we will get

some over the coming months. I am also wanting to workshop some ideas on reaching out to the under 16 Venturers and will talk more during gb.

4.6. **Merchandise Coordinator** – Aaron Hamerling

Nothing to report as of recent, looking into costs of t-shirt restock

4.7. **Activities Coordinator (Region Events)** – Joel Tjoa

Nothing to report

4.8. **Activities Coordinator (Outdoor)** – Henry Marsden

A lot has been happening in the State and Region levels, but to put it simply, Adventure will still be a key aspect of our Scouting. Training unfortunately, will be a bit confusing over the next 6-18 months as the state volunteer restructuring settles into place and all of the new deputy assistant chief commissioners get their portfolios under control. I have been in contact with the national training team to try get access to the new workbooks for TP and AG and Guide qualifications, and as soon as I get these I will spread them amongst the Region via Unit Leaders.

4.9. **VLO/YLO** - Jacqueline Berthold

Tom, Elyse, Liam and I have been discussing improving email correspondence and creating o-week-like activities for older Venturers to trial Rover Units. - more on this later.

4.10. **Training Coordinator** – VACANT

4.11. **Service Coordinator** – Aimee Savva

Nothing to report

4.12. **SRC Delegates** – Max Arens, Darcey Hawkins, Blade Puckeridge, Luke Leverton

- Dave Bannon is now the Assistant Chief Commissioner - Program, and as such is now the person the SRC 'reports' to.
- Looking for people to help run activities on State Rally, Mitch Stubbs is the event coordinator.
- NRC Blood Drive is happening from October 1 for 1 month
- For those attending WOW - please make sure you pay your fees. NSW Contingent team merchandise has been finalised and will be out soon.



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- Money for a Rover Training course (thanks to Sam) was accepted and passed
RRA & QRA Noms are open. Panels are now QRA to be decided by RRC Chairs, and RRA by SRC Core Executive.

4.13. **Regional Commissioner – Rovers** – Elyse Versace

It's been another few active months for Sydney North Rovers! As usual, Sydney North Rovers did a great job of supporting Dragonskin and ScoutHike at VOC2 and Sleep Point 6 this year. I really enjoyed hearing about the amazing activities you put on for the Venturers and Scouts. While these activities are a great way to get Rovers out there and showing the younger Sections who you are and what you do, never forget the greater impact you have on a day to day basis. Make sure that you are still linking with your Venturers and building those connections outside of those major events.

We had a great Unit Leader Bi-Annual Meeting last month with an amazing turnout from the Unit Leader and Rover Advisers and some fantastic discussions on where our Units need more support and how we can improve Rovering in Sydney North Region! I look forward to continuing to work with the Unit Leaders and RRC Executive to put some of these ideas into action.

The re-registration period has ended and as a Region, the Rovers are currently sitting at a return rate of 92%. Some of our Units have seen growth since the previous trek while others are sitting at a return rate of below 70%. I would like to give a shoutout to 1st Turramurra and who, for the second year in a row, were not only the first ones to have 100% of their membership from the previous Trek return but have actually increased in size! I would have loved to have seen all of our Rover Units grow and am hoping we can aim for that in the next rollover period! Please remind all of your members that if they are coming along to things and they haven't re-registered, they will need to do so before attending any further Scouting events. As we all know the price of things keeps going up and Scouting is no exception to that so I want to let everyone know that there are options. Payment plans are now more readily available through ScoutHub and Rovers are eligible for the Family Support Fund which could really make a difference to some of our members. Also a reminder that if you are turning 26 in this trek, please make sure you email Member Services at Scouts NSW for a pro-rata membership fee so that you are not paying for the whole trek if you are aging out part way through.

Tom and I attended a Region Commissioners Meeting at the end of April where I was introduced to Andrew Lord who is our new Region Support Officer at State Office. His primary role is to provide support to our Region Support Officer, Donna, as well as the Region Support Officer for GWS. I am currently in discussions with him about the possibility of Scouts NSW generating an automatic message to Venturers who are coming up to the end of their HSC year to encourage progression to Rovers and remind them that their membership fees are covered until April 2027 so they have the perfect opportunity to 'try before they buy'. At the moment they receive an automatic message when they turn 18 advising them of their Mandatory Training/WWCC and Police Check requirements but nothing that encourages progression. Unfortunately since the time of writing this report, I have been



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notified that Andrew Lord has resigned and so will be reaching out to Peter Blatch to discuss this proposal going forward.

Jacqueline, Tom and I also met with the Regional Commissioner - Venturers to discuss how we could work more collaboratively at a Region level to improve Venturer-Rover linking as well as discussing Roventure.

Nominations for the Rover Recognition Awards and Quality Rovering Awards are now open! We have some incredible Rovers and some of the best Rover Units in the State so I encourage you all to put in a nomination!

And finally, speaking for nominations, the Training Coordinator role is currently vacant on our Region Rover Council Executive and we are calling for nominations tonight. I really encourage anyone who has been thinking about joining the RRC Executive Team and/or wants to learn more about training to put your hand up! Having done this role myself when I was a Rover, it was one of my favourites and a perfect supportive role for you to experience the next level of Rover governance, something that is unique to your Section.

That's all for me, as always, if you have any questions or there is anything you need, I am only an email away!

4.14. Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers – VACANT

5. General Business

5.1. Reimbursements

1. BBQ

\$26.10 - Automatically approved (under \$50).

2. Chocolates

\$12.50 - Automatically approved (under \$20).

3. Auditor

Automatic reimbursement for Tamara Dudfield \$68 for auditors gift (under \$75).

5.2. Training Coordinator position

1. Victor Da accepted the nomination for the role of Training Coordinator, from Patrick Kasemrungchaikit

2. **Victor was elected Training Coordinator of the RRC.**



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5.3. Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers role

1. Elyse has been talking with the Executive about who they will want as Assistant Regional Commissioner - Rovers.
2. Pete Dean expressed interest in the role and has been attending Executive meetings and ULBAM.
3. Motion was put forward to endorse Pete as the Assistant Regional Commissioner – Rovers.
4. **All for. Motion passes.**

5.4. SNR ARP

1. Next Sunday, Lane Cove Scout Hall (Blackman Park)
Rovers have been requested to help at the event, including flag bearing and chair set up and pack own.

5.5. Kalang Kup – Joel Tjoa

1. Quidditch was chosen as the sport for this year.
2. Joel to find quotes and return to RRC for final approval.

5.6. Alcohol permissions

1. New alcohol permissions currently under review by the Operations, Compliance and Risk team at state office.
2. Current process is still in place and need to followed.
3. Tom has set up teams form for Unit Leaders to fill out when planning an event where alcohol permissions are wanted. Minimum 14 days required.
4. Tamara Dudfield: Is there a way we can include the event organisers name on the form, along with the ULs name?
5. Tom: Yes
6. Elyse passed on feedback from Region Commissioners from other Regions that they were very happy to see Sydney North Rovers continue to do the right thing and were impressed with the quality of our Risk Assessments.

5.7. Rover & Venturer relations

1. Link up list is just a guide, we should all work together, there have been disagreements on Feeder Units between Rover Units.
2. Relationship with Regional Commissioner - Venturers is better than ever.
Encourage Ventures to visit all Rover Unit's so they can get as much info as possible before deciding which Unit to join.

5.8. Region Team

1. Charles Turner (Deputy Region Commissioner) and Richard Hughes-Narborough (Region Commissioner) talked to the Rovers about help with running the Region, both as shadowing



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members on the Region team (with the plan to take over in the future), and as wardens at Camp Kuring Gai.

2. Areas like property management & leadership roles. These positions not only help your Scouting experience but you can also gain experience in your professional life.

Tom will send out Organisation Chart with Roles on the Region Team to Unit Leaders.

5.9. Summer Moot Tender – Epping Rover Unit

1. Theme is Locomootion.
2. Emma Forbes and Jonathon Dellagiacoma are Moot Chiefs.
3. 5th-7th Feb 2027 at Camp Kuring Gai.
4. Motion put forward to accept the tender presented by Epping.

2 Abstaining, 17 for. Motion Passes.

5.10. Snow Moot money to be returned Normanhurst

1. Snow Moot money is going into RRC bank account instead of Normanhurst Rover's bank account due to the setup of the Stripe account for the event. As Normanhurst Rovers are covering the costs of the event themselves, the income from the event should be returned to them.
2. Motion for RRC to reimburse Normanhurst Rovers for the income received from this event (all payments – up to \$10000)

All for. Motion Passes.

5.11. Venturer leadership course helpers & Venturer camp helpers

1. Liam Painter (Regional Commissioner – Venturers) has requested Rover help at the few Venturer events this year.
2. A Leadership course is on the 25th and 26th July, with mentors and presenters requested.
3. Venturer Region camp is on the 13-15th November (Camp Kuring Gai is likely venue).
4. Activities, welfare, first aid helpers have been requested.
5. Email Tom to express your interest, and he will pass them onto Liam Painter.

5.12 Orientation month for Venturers

1. Jacqueline has started works on an 'Orientation month' for Venturers to try out different Rover Units in the Region.
2. Each Rover Unit can choose a night in the selected month (TBC, likely November) to do something to show who they are for Venturers to take into consideration when looking for a Rover Unit to move into.
3. The idea is to hold around November to catch Venture after HSC, a whole month of events - "open nights".

More information to come.

5.13. Roventure

1. Luke Levertton (Asquith Rover Unit) raised some important and key points regarding the running of Roventure.
2. Consistency is key – the changes seen over the past 5/6 years haven't been well received by Ventures.
3. Format doesn't matter (weekend or 1 day event) – just need promo & consistency.
4. If one day event, Sunday is preferred (to avoid sports on Saturday).
5. Over the next couple of years – change the day until we find one that suits best.
6. South Met do 2 events like Roventure – one 1 day event and 1 weekend event.
7. Jacqueline, Tom & Elyse are still working with Liam Painter to work out the best way to run Roventure going forward. These points will be taken into consideration and raised with Liam.

6. Event Promotion

HGS Rover Night – 10th July

MMT – 12-13th September

Harbour Cruise – 9th October

Dragon Skin – 26th – 30th March, 2027

Platabeen Trivia – 24th October

Clause for a Cause – 4th December

National 'Way Out West' Moot

- 400 registered and paid.
- Registrations close for NSW Contingent end of September.

Summer Moot – 5-7th Feb 2027

Dragon Skin – 26th – 30th March, 2027

7. Closing

7.1. Barra Buri Service

June: Asquith

July: Normanhurst

August: Gordon



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7.2. **BBQ at next RRC**

Turramurra

7.3. **Presentations at next RRC**

Kissing Point

Turramurra

Asquith

Meeting Closed: 21:07

Next Meeting: August 8th , 2nd Gordon Scout Hall, start 19:00



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Appendix A

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