SCANZ 2025 AGM Minutes

Meeting opened 7:38 pm 9 August 2025, when a quorum was obtained.

Attending via Discord: Kerry McSaveney (Chair), Jacqui Macgregor-Pahl (Vice-chair), Scott Campbell (Secretary), Richard Goodwin (Treasurer), David McLagan, Amy Wilson, Alisdair Muckart, Erin Inwood.
Observing: Tegan Hunter/Mildryth (Kingdom Seneschal).
Apologies: Zara Kinzett (Registrar).

Agenda

1) Annual Reports
    a) Chair's report - see Item 1 below.
    b) Treasurer's Performance Report - as attached. Moved Kerry, seconded Scott, that this report be accepted; passed unanimously.
2) New Constitution - general
    a) Reference was made to the draft constitution in wiki form at https://scanzwiki.fullmesh.co.nz/index.php/Main_Page. Kerry opened the review with "Any show-stoppers from anyone, to the general form and content of the draft? Anything that would block our moving to a detailed review?"
    Voting for provisional acceptance: 6 in favour, 1 abstention.
3) New Constitution - review of draft wiki sections
    a) **General Meetings**: quorum minimum value of 4 was queried; too small? In discussion, the meeting decided that locking down the meeting agenda 2 weeks prior, with all motions published, was sufficient protection against "capture" of an AGM by a last-minute motion at the meeting. Noted that a held proxy does not count for quorum.
    No change to draft.
    b) **General Meetings**: notice period - retained 6 week requirement for notice of AGM.
    Change to draft: current 4 week prior notice of final agenda reduced to 2 week prior notice. Postal voting needed the 4 week advance, but for in-person meetings, 2 weeks advance of the final agenda is sufficient.
    c) **Members**: addition of "affiliate member" class (Richard), to clarify existence and scope of this class. Meeting discussion agreed that this was a valid notion.
    Change to draft: add "affiliate member" section after the "event member" section. Privileges of membership for any individual are defined by the relevant affiliation agreement for that individual's parent organisation.
    d) **Members**: junior membership voting rights - age limit of 18 queried, when someone under 18yo can become a subscribing member with full voting rights. Meeting decided that 14yo was a reasonable cutoff age for voting rights.
    Change to draft: in "subscribing member" section, voting rights, change "18 years" to "14 years".
    e) **Members**: discussion re the committee's power to revoke or deny membership, particularly in the case of a new membership application. Meeting decided that the current text has enough protection against arbitrary use of this power by any committee.
    No change to draft.

f) **Officers**:
   i) **Kingdom Officers** - noted this list includes Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, Exchequer and Deputy Exchequer. **No change to draft**.
   ii) **Branch officers** - discussion whether (NZ) B&B should be officers. **No change to draft**.
   iii) Branch officers - Richard argued that an individual (branch) account authoriser does meet the threshold to be considered an officer under the Act, since they have limited financial influence, and other safeguards will be in place to constrain inappropriate use of this ability. Meeting discussion agreed.
   Change to draft: remove all of section 6.2.4.2.4 Account authorisers.
   iv) **Appointment of officers**: Richard clarified that, if the Exchequer is a SCANZ member, appointment of the Australian Deputy Exchequer will be subject to SCANZ approval in addition to any other approvals.

g) **Dispute resolution**: referral of a complaint - discussion that current text does not allow referral of a complaint to an individual for investigation and reporting, which is common enough current SCA practice in Lochac and elsewhere.
   Change to draft: insert "appointed individual member" after "sub-committee" in 9.7.s1 a) and b).

h) **Liquidation and removal from the register**: surplus assets - current criterion of "mediaeval re-enactment" was too limiting; widen this to "historical re-enactment".
   Change to draft: replace "mediaeval" with "historical" re-enactment".

i) **Common seal**: currently any use of the common seal can be countersigned by *any* two officers. Agreed to restrict this scope. Noted that we have never yet had occasion to use the common seal.
   Change to draft: replace "2 officers" with "2 committee members and/or corporate officers".

4) New Constitution - motion to accept the draft constitution when revised as noted in these minutes to replace the current constitution. Moved Kerry, seconded Jacqui, passed unanimously.

Meeting ended at 9:16 pm.

Items

Item 1 - Chair's AGM Report 2025

It's been a busy year (well, part thereof!). Having stepped into the secretary role post AGM, I quickly shuffled into the Chair's chair as Josie gave up her seat on the Committee to take up the arguably more important role as the Baroness of Southron Gaard at Canterbury Faire - her role certainly comes with a better hat! We thank Scott for stepping into a Committee role for his *third* go-around.

We'd also like to provide a special thanks to Elizabeth Kent, who was our Registrar and Authorisations officer for so long, that some of us remember no other. Thank you to Zara Kinzett and Benjamin Wells stepping into the roles as rulers of the organisation's laminators.

This year has seen our membership holding steady, as we appear to have dug ourselves out of pandemic lows. Unfortunately while the membership holds steady, the cost of living has come home to roost in the organisation's finances, with the cost of corporate overheads like web maintenance and the upgraded insurance that we voted for at the last AGM necessitating an increase in our annual membership fees - we're still cheaper than our affiliate friends across the seas.

This year's big task has been drafting the updated constitution to bring us into line with the current legislation. I'd like to thank the Companies Office for their constitution builder tool for helping lay the foundation to drop our existing rules into. There was a significant amount of copy and pasting that could go on, so thanks to the work of those who chipped in before to create our rules of incorporation.

One of the new roles that we aim to establish as a corporate office is the SCANZ diversity, equity and inclusion officer. SCA Inc wants it to become a Greater Kingdom Office in all kingdoms across the Known World, but we think it's important enough to sit above the kingdom. The goal of this office is to ensure that all of SCANZ's policies and procedures (and Lochac's that flow out of those) support our goals of being an inclusive organisation, not just in our game, but the structures behind it. If this sounds like something you are keen to assist with, please get in touch to register your interest.

The updated constitution will generate some work for the coming year as we will need to re-draft our affiliation agreements with both SCA Inc in the US, as well as our Kingdom-mate SCA Ltd.

Our Australian friends are keen to play as always, and fortunately, the President of SCA Inc is keen to support the affiliates and ensure that proper procedure and consultation occurs, which hasn't been a strong suit in the past. We expect more discussion to occur soon.

When people ask me what my persona is, the answer is "I'm a bureaucrat," so I'm looking forward to the year ahead.

Yours in service to SCANZ,

Kerry McSaveney, Chair
Known in the SCA as Baroness Angele de Savigny, OP, OM.