



14th Annual General Meeting of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific

To be held virtually via GoTo Meeting

Minutes Saturday 10th May 2025

When clubs notify who their club representative will be a link will be sent to the club representative's email. This link will be used for both the general meeting and the annual general meeting.

Required Quorum: 30 Clubs *For a general meeting to be held, at least thirty [30] members (a quorum) must be present (by representative or by proxy) for the whole meeting. When determining whether a quorum is present, a person may only be counted once (even if that person is a representative or proxy of more than one member). [Company Constitution 24.1]*

Voting on Motions requires a simple majority. The motions will need to be moved and seconded at the meeting.

HOUSEKEEPING

The Agenda will be on the screen but if you would like to download any of the documents they are located on the website and have been emailed to the clubs' email addresses.

Voting on these motions requires a simple majority

1. **Welcome by President Joanne Yeoh**
Joanne welcomed all on line and in the livestream – meeting started and 15:07
2. **Announcement of Quorum**
Shah Alam left meeting at 3:12
3. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**
Anyone who has a conflict of interest should declare it at this meeting at the relevant agenda item during the meeting. **NIL**
4. **Acceptance of Agenda**
MOVED that the Agenda as circulated be accepted.
Moved by: SI Dunedin **Seconded by:** SI Brisbane **Carried 61**
5. **Consent Agenda**
5.1 Greetings and Apologies
Greetings:
Apologies: Past President Yvonne Simpson



5.2 Acceptance of Standing Orders for Conduct of General and Federation Meetings as Per Company By-Law 12.

5.3 Appointments

Procedural Consultant: Michele Kaur

Returning Officer: Theresa Lyford

Scrutineers: Cherrie Power, Hanaa Abdullah

Timekeeper: Sandra Richards

5.4 Attendees – Representatives, proxy representatives and other attendees – Lists shown at the Meeting and will be attached with the minutes. Club member dropped off at 3:21pm

5.5 Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting held on 3 May 2024

5.6 SISEAP Discussion Ground Rules

We agree to disagree.

We agree to treat each other with dignity and respect, even when we disagree.

When we disagree, we agree to (1) explain why, and (2) provide other alternatives.

We agree to speak slowly and remind others to do so, remembering that English is not everyone's first language.

We agree not to play the "Blame Game".

We agree that we are all in a state of learning and that we will be open to suggestions or questions from each other that are offered in the spirit of learning and support.

We agree not to attack the person raising the issue.

We agree to support the consensus of the group.

MOVED that the Consent Agenda be accepted.

Moved by: SI Circular Head **Seconded by:** SI North Shore **Carried 60**

6. Proxy Representatives

MOVED that the Proxy Representative as listed be accepted.

Moved by: SI Randwick **Seconded by:** SI Rotarua **Against 1 Carried 59**

7. President's Report

MOVED that the President's Report be accepted.

Moved by: SI Beenleigh **Seconded by:** SI Christchurch **Carried 59**



8. Company Secretary's Report

MOVED that the Company Secretary's Report be accepted.

Moved by: SI Wellington

Seconded by: SI North Shore **Carried**

9. Financial Statements and Independent Audit Report

MOVED that the Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific Financial Statements and Independent Audit Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 be received.

Moved by: SI Circular Head

Seconded by: SI Brisbane

Carried 60

Questions regarding the Financial Statements and Independent Audit Report – NIL RECEIVED.

Several questions were raised in relation to the notes on the Financial Statements, which were answered by Treasurer Wendy Evans. Clubs were reminded that it is important for the questions to be submitted within the timeline given so that a full and comprehensive answer can be given to any questions asked.

10. Questions submitted to Directors – NIL RECEIVED

11. Ratification of Company Secretary

MOVED that the appointment of Theresa Annette **Lyford** as the Company Secretary of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific for 2025-2026 be ratified.

Moved by: SI Melbourne **Seconded by:** SI Melba

Against: 1 (SI Tuapo)

Carried: 59

12. Election of Directors

It is noted that the following directors will retire at this meeting as per the constitution:

Anthea Helen **Penny**

Deborah Lee Copland **Wood**

Maria **Tsovleas**

Wendy Patricia **Evans**

The following are the rules for the appointment of directors according to the constitution of the company.



41. Election and appointment of directors
- 41.1 The members may elect a director by a resolution passed in a general meeting.
- 41.2 Each of the directors must be appointed by a separate resolution, unless:
- 41.2.1 the members present have first passed a resolution that the appointments may be voted on together, and
- 41.2.2 no votes were cast against that resolution.
- 41.3 A person is eligible for election as a director of the company if they:
- 41.3.1 are a Soroptimist belonging to a member club of the company,
- 41.3.2 are at least 18 years of age,
- 41.3.3 give the company their signed consent to act as a director of the company,
- 41.3.4 have verified their identity as part of the Director Identification Number (Director ID) requirement, and
- 41.3.5 are not ineligible to be a director under the Act.
- 41.4 The following elected position holders shall be directors:
- 41.4.1 President
- 41.4.2 Immediate Past President, for the first year of each biennium
- 41.4.3 President Elect, for the second year of the biennium.
- 41.5 The directors may appoint a person as a director to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional director if that person:
- 41.5.1 is a Soroptimist belonging to a member club of the company,
- 41.5.2 is at least 18 years of age,
- 41.5.3 gives the company their signed consent to act as a director of the company, and
- 41.5.4 is not ineligible to be a director under the Act.
- 41.6 The company must confirm the appointment of a director under [clause 41.5](#) by resolution at the company's next AGM. If the appointment is not confirmed, the person ceases to be a director of the company at the end of the AGM.
- 41.7 If the number of directors is reduced to fewer than three or is less than the number required for a quorum, the continuing directors may act for the purpose of increasing the number of directors to three (or higher if required for a quorum) or calling a general meeting, but for no other purpose.

The following Nominations were received, and Directors have reviewed their applications and deemed all suitable for a position as Director. All the nominees have supplied their Australian Directors ID No.

- **Kerry Beer**
- **Hiang Cheng (Helena) Cheah**
- **Wendy Patricia Evans**
- **Terry Anne Maunsell**
- **Deborah Lee Copland Wood**



- *Maria Tsovleas*

MOVED that the confirmation and appointment of all nominees as directors,

- *Kerry Beer*
- *Hiang Cheng (Helena) Cheah*
- *Wendy Patrica Evans*
- *Terry Anne Maunsell*
- *Maria Tsovleas*
- *Deborah Lee Copland Wood*

be voted on together.

Moved by: SI Hornsby **Seconded by:** SI Randwick **Carried 60**

NOTE: If any club votes against the motion of election of Directors as a block then we will proceed to vote for the appointment of each director individually.

~~**MOVED that Kerry Beer, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

~~**MOVED that Hiang Cheng (Helena) Cheah, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

~~**MOVED that Wendy Patrica Evans, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

~~**MOVED that Terry Anne Maunsell, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

~~**MOVED that Maria Tsovleas, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

~~**MOVED that Deborah Lee Copland Wood, be appointed as a director of Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific.**~~

Moved by: SI _____ Seconded by: SI _____

13. Ratification of Directors

Note: That Anthea Helen Penny moves into a director’s role by virtual of her position as President Elect under Company Bylaws 11.4 Terms of Office, 11.4.1 and 11.4.3

Poh Suan Yeoh (Joanne)



Anthea Helen **Penny**
Christine Ann **Johnstone** (*Director*)
Kerry **Beer**
Hiang Cheng (Helena) **Cheah**
Wendy Patrica **Evans**
Terry Anne **Maunsell**
Maria **Tsovleas**
Deborah Lee Copland **Wood**

MOVED that the Company Directors for 2025-2026 be ratified.

Moved by: SI Canberra

Seconded by: SI Taupo

Carried 60

Someone left at 16.14 pm

- 14. Presentation of the Company Annual Report by President Joanne Yeoh presented the 2024 Colour eBooklet which will then go onto our SISEAP Website**
- 15. The next AGM – 1st May 2026 at Kota Kinabalu in Saba, Malaysia.**
- 16. Conference of Clubs 2026 will be held at Kota Kinabalu in Saba, Malaysia 2-3 May 2026.**
- 17. Closing of Meeting at 16.16**