

THE ASSOCIATION OF HYDRAULIC SERVICES CONSULTANTS  
AUSTRALIA  
QUEENSLAND CHAPTER

**2019 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT  
TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Management Committee**

The 2019 Management Committee consisted of:

President	Jason Radcliffe (Nov 18 – Sep 19)
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Technical)	Ken Crase
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Education)	David Mitmannsgruber
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Membership)	Brett Cluley
Secretary	Justin Sweet
Treasurer	Adrian Zirps
CPD Co-ordinator	Bruce Dan

Jason Radcliffe resigned his position as President in September 2019 and the Management Committee appointed Bruce Dan as Acting President until the AGM.

The committee has met on a monthly basis to conduct its business.

**Members Meetings**

Members meeting were conducted as follows:

5 February	sponsored by Rinnai
2 April	sponsored by ACO and BION Systems
4 June (closed)	sponsored by Emerson and Quantum LegioGuard
6 August	sponsored by AusPress
1 October	sponsored by Billi and Davey
14 November	sponsored by Zip

The meetings provide a business networking and fellowship opportunity for the membership. At each meeting two Affiliate members co-sponsor the evening and provide an update on their products and services. To add value, a technical guest speaker provides a presentation. Attendance range from 55 -75 members at each meeting.

**Membership**

The membership statistics have remained stable over the past 12 months:

October 2018 = 165  
October 2019 = 169

Each month, the Management Committee receives and assesses new member applications which is pleasing, however, as is to be expected, there are also a number of members across all grades that do not renew for a number of reasons. Members are also encouraged to apply for an upgrade of their membership grade once their qualifications and experience allow them to do so.

**Finance**

The 2019 year has been not been without challenges. In the first half of the year, the bank balance was the lowest recorded. The Management Committee had to make immediate and firm decisions to bring the balance back to a healthy position, and to provide sustainable growth. Those decisions included:

- Minor increase in membership fees
- Remove subsidy of Management Committee membership fees

- Change the location of the Management Committee meetings to eliminate costs associated with room hire etc
- Amend the format of the tradeshow to provide additional value for Affiliate sponsors and members

These changes enabled the Chapter to bounce-back to a healthy position in the second half of 2019. One of the benefits of membership is the AHSCA Research Foundation Stormwater Module 1 and Module 2 courses and the Management Committee arranged for these to be offered in November 2019.

The Management Committee is looking forward to implementing additional strategies in 2020 to improve members services.

### **Continuing Professional Development**

The Chapter's CPD Policy states that "*The Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants of Australia Inc has set the requirement for each member as 10 points in each one year period from membership renewal to membership renewal. For the purposes of this policy, "Members" shall include all Full, Associate and Student members.*"

The Chapter has 122 Full, Associate and Student members. Of those, 40 have submitted their CPD Log and complied with the Policy.

Significant, special CPD activities offered during 2019 included:

- Stormwater Modules 1 and 2
- Trade Show
- A half-day technical seminar on Pump Selection was hosted by Skyline Pumps
- Technical Presentations at members meetings, including Lindsay Walker's on the new Planning Act; a Stormwater Management presentation by Tony Loveday; Trade Waste by QUU; and Warm Water Systems.

### **Education**

Unfortunately, 2019 saw TAFE Queensland close enrolments for the CPC50612 Diploma of Hydraulic Services Design, with the course currently in teach-out mode until 2022 as per the attached study plan. A number of meetings were held with the AHSCA State Chapters, TAFE Queensland, The Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC) – a registered training organisation (RTO) for the plumbing industry and The Services Trades College (a Queensland partner of PICAC). Based on these discussions, the attached industry letter was issued to PICAC outlining the current issues with cost and inflexibility of the Diploma course and possible solutions to make the course more attractive for students and more cost efficient to run for an RTO - which in turn would make it more affordable for students. This letter will form the basis for ongoing discussions with RTOs and government departments to re-open the course for the next generation of hydraulic services designers.

In parallel to this, the HCAA (formerly AHSCA NSW) are working with TAFE NSW to offer the Diploma course at TAFE North Sydney. The current target for the TAFE NSW Diploma course start is July 2020, however, formal course endorsement and whether this course would be available for students outside of NSW is yet to be confirmed.

### **Technical**

A half-day technical seminar on Pump Selection was hosted and held at Skyline Pumps which was very well attended. At the seminar, various pump design applications were discussed for different requirements. This seminar also included a visual inspection of a variety of different pump designs with innovative approaches to fire designs. IE providing fire pump sets inside shipping containers manufactured in the factory and delivered on site ready for use.

During the past year, members attended CPD solutions seminars with the topic of wet fire systems and their performance. At the seminars, new important Australian Standards design requirements were discussed with their effect on services design. This included the new NCC 2019 Sprinkler Requirements which members should be aware of.

With the introduction of the Queensland Plumbing Act, Regulation and Wastewater Code from 1 July 2019, the AHSCA have been attending various meetings over the past twelve months and raising concerns about practicable implications with hydraulic services design.

During the past twelve months, Barry Hage and his committee have been working on behalf of the AHSCA as the Legionella Working Group.

Following the issue of the new Queensland Government – Form 1 – Compliance Assessment Application for Plumbing, Drainage and On-Site Sewerage Work from 1 July 2019, members of the AHSCA Queensland Chapter were given an opportunity to comment on the new form and to make comments for review.

Following feedback from members on BCC DA conditions for fire hydrant systems in Class 1/1a developments, meetings were organised between the AHSCA Queensland Chapter and the BCC development team which were very productive and resulted in a re-draft of the BCC DA conditions to better align with the QFES Fire Hydrant and Vehicle Access Guidelines and plumbing codes.

After some delays, the Chapter was in a position to offer Module 1 and Module 2 training courses for members to get the full benefit of the test rig results that all AHSCA Chapters invested so heavily in. It was also good to see other State Chapter members attend who had missed out at their own State training courses. A good sign how State Chapters can work closer together in the future.

2019 saw the biennial AHSCA Queensland Chapter Trade Show and many commented that this was the best AHSCA Queensland trade show to-date. It was held in mid-July at the Victoria Park Function Centre at Herston and was attended by an industry audience of 82 people. 26 AHSCA Queensland Chapter Affiliate members exhibited their products.

The Management Committee reviewed new legislation which was passed this year, including:

- 01.05.2019 National Construction Code 2019 (Volume 3 Plumbing Code of Australia)
- 01.05.2019 AS/NZS3500 2018 parts 1-4
- 01.07.2019 The plumbing and Drainage Act 2018
- 01.07.2019 Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019
- 01.07.2109 Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code 2019

Along with these new changes, the Management Committee spent numerous hours collating the differences and issues relating to the new "Form 1" from all Council's in Southeast Queensland to ensure Lindsay Walker had the opportunity to address the problems quickly. As well as ensuring any pressing issues or new Council requirements were forward to the members to help prevent the dreaded "request for information" issues which are received from time-to-time.

**ENDS**