

Questions asked via email received on or before 18th August 2022.

Following is all the questions received by email to hello@coledalersl.com.au on or before 18th August 2022 and the boards response. We have however chosen to ignore any abusive or inappropriate emails. Also, we received several emails suggesting improvements, but didn't really pose any question, these are not included below.

1- Has there been an independent audit from a non-affiliated company since 2018?

2- If no independent audit has been conducted then why not?

3- I put a motion forward to have the books audited by a company not affiliated with the club dating back to 2018.

4- If it is found that any members of the board cannot produce receipts for the money that has been spent what action will be taken to re-claim that money?

Our accounts were last audited, by an independent Auditor, to December 2021 and the Auditors report for 2021 and 2020 can be found on our website www.coledalersl.com.au . Also the latest Management Accounts reports are posted on a notice board in the club.

Our Constitution stipulates that we are to have our accounts audited every year. Traditionally we make the Auditors reports available to all members at our AGM and in the last couple of years we have been posting them on our website. At our last AGM held on 29th May we presented our financials to all members and had our Accountant and Auditors representative available for questions.

To complete this Audit to ASIC required standards can be expensive. Our Audit for Year End December 2021 was approx. \$14,000.

Should any Member, Employee, or Director purchase anything on behalf of the Club, the Club will reimburse them only after we receive a receipt.

1 - Why are we making decisions in the middle of winter in regard to the future of the club when patronage increases during the summer months?

2 - There was no reply to the members survey to enhance the club's future, such as bringing back old beer and tearing down the great wall of Coledale which only divides the club.

3 -For your information, Tradies of Helensburgh no longer operate on Monday and Tuesday, this is a club with great backing from Tradies at Gynea and Caringbah, has the committee considered this option.

Financial decisions are made to benefit of the Club as the need arises, regardless of the time of year.

Compiling Survey results, and issuing reports to members, has been slow, and we apologise. Survey results are now available to Members and can be found on our website.

According to Tradies Helensburgh Facebook page, they have been closing on Mondays and Tuesdays due to Staff shortages rather than a cost cutting measure. While we have considered this option in the past, analysis of trading and labour costs of opening on these days has always shown that we are just as likely to trade profitably on these days as any other day. That said we remain open minded to closing on these quieter days at some stage in the future.

1 - What is the current salary of the general/business/bar manager(s) and what are their weekly working hours?

2 -What ideas and actions has the manager(s) come up with to alleviate the financial issues that have arisen?

3 - What are the current staffing wages weekly compared to weekly revenue?

4 - What is the current revenue from poker machines weekly / monthly?

5 - What is the expected value from the sale of these 12 poker machines?

6 - Has the board of directors looked at or discussed the utilities billing and consulted for a better deal from an energy provider?

7 - Has the board of directors discussed cancelling the FOXTEL/Pay T.V subscription?

8 - What is the current cost (annually) of said subscription?

9 - Has the board discussed a reduction in trading hours?

10 - Are there any monies outstanding in loans or leases in regard to the operations of business? with whom, and how much is the total amount and servicing costs?

Details concerning Employees wages and hours worked will not be discussed due to Privacy reasons. This isn't the Club being over-protective or polite, but more to do with the Club complying to Federal and NSW State laws surrounding employee's privacy.

So far to the end of July we have averaged around \$14,800 per month in Poker Machine Income, this represents an enormous decline from previous years and is our biggest single problem in reduced income.

The approx. value of our Poker Machine Allocations is \$35,000 for each block of 3 machines or \$140,000 for the total of all machines. Then there is the resale value of the machines themselves, so far, we haven't been able to determine an exact value, but a fair estimate would be up to \$30,000.

Sadly, we are in a very difficult position with our energy providers. It seems a former employee of the Club committed us to a 6-year contract that does not finish until sometime in 2023. We can't comment if this was a favourable arrangement when the contracts were signed, but approx. 12 months ago we were paying around 20% above the market rates. The cost to get out of this arrangement were at the time, extreme. We WON'T be committing ourselves to this type of arrangement again.

We have considered cancelling Foxtel and may cancel it in the future. Being a commercial venue subscription is very expensive at \$1,500 per month. Fines for televising Foxtel on a standard domestic account at our Club run at over \$20,000.

The only loan the Club has, is for our Insurance Premiums.

I was just wondering how much Ron McMaster got for being the coordinator of the Coledale RSL renovations?

Ron did not receive any direct payment for his efforts during the renovations, what so ever. He did purchase materials on behalf on the Club and was reimbursed only when he presented receipts or invoices. He did, however have an arrangement where he would be entitled to a few schooners of beer per day, this was agreed upon by the Board. In total this would not have exceeded \$350.00 in cost.

Furthermore, during the time he was President he was entitled to an Honorarium of \$435 per month, which he refused to receive.

Can the board of directors tell the members of the club if the club should have to close would the club owe money to any creditors.

The issue of insolvency is an extremely serious issue concerning any Director of any business. Any Director found guilty of deliberate trading while insolvent can face personal charges that will affecting any other Directorships, business loans, or even their personal mortgage. At the moment we can pay most of our Bills when they fall due,

and we have been open and honest with the ATO requesting an extension on our taxes and made arrangements with our landlord concerning overdue payments.

What are the actions being undertaken by the board to respond to the requests by the community (survey results).

Results are now available on our website, and we apologise for the delay.

How are you as a Board going to entice Members & guests through the doors of Coledale RSL. You can't expect people to come to the Club if you keep taking things away from the Members. How are you supposed to make money if no one comes through the doors?

In the past we have sponsored the local Soccer team, fishing club, winter swimming club, indoor bowls etc. Sadly, our continuing decline in profits has made it impossible to continue with this support. Similarly, we have had to reduce Raffles and other in-Club promotions. The reason for this is purely financial, our continued decline has all but eliminated our ability to keep these activities going, as most of these activities don't pay for themselves.

You should listen to the chef and make changes. Maybe u would get more people in to eat. Do u know anything about food?

While some of the Board can cook, at home, we are not qualified Chefs or experienced caterers, Carlos is both. We have a contract with My Little Brasserie to operate our Bistro until January 2023, and Carlos has an option to continue longer if he chooses to. Our contract does not allow the Club to dictate what dishes to prepare or what prices to charge. Carlos has always been enthusiastic about operating My Little Brasserie and does his best to serve value for money dishes and runs specials when he can. In the past few months Carlos has absorbed the ever-increasing cost of food purchases and has not increased his prices.

We receive regular feedback and comments on our food offer provided by Carlos and his team. Our recent member survey completed by 382 members told us that over 73% of respondents rated the bistro as "Extremely satisfied" or "Very satisfied".

Carlos and the club management are in regular discussion to try and improve the offering, opening hours and specials. In response to member feedback, we are currently looking at ways to improve our services.

What will happen to the club premises and the RSL Branch if Coledale RSL Club ceases to trade

The club premises are owned and controlled by the Coledale RSL Sub Branch, which is one of about 340 local Sub-Branched to NSW RSL based in ANZAC House in Sydney, which is a separate entity to the Coledale RSL Club. The board and management of the Club and RSL Sub-Branch are independent of each other. Our relationship is one of landlord and tenants.

At this stage there is no imminent intention for the club to cease trading. We are seeking ways to ensure the continuation of the club.

Any future decisions regarding the property will rest entirely with the RSL Sub-Branch and or RSL NSW.

The Dividing wall is a topic often raised by members

The wall was included in the renovation work because of professional advice received on the regulations applicable to gaming areas in the club.

The board acknowledges this has been unpopular with some members and that members feel this has been detrimental to the atmosphere and activities such as bands/dancing etc. The current board would like to investigate changes to the club layout, if possible, unfortunately the cost implications of structural changes and removal of the wall is prohibitive at this point.

What happens if the Club winds up business and there is still Assets owned by the Club?

On this our, Constitution is very clear. Section 2 part 7 on page 31 reads.

“If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the members of the Club but shall be given or transferred to Coledale Sub-Branch of the Returned Services League of Australia (New South Wales Branch) Incorporated.”

Our Constitution is available to download from our website.

What happens if the Motion of no confidence in the current Board is upheld at the EGM and the current Directors are voted out?

Interestingly a motion of no confidence in the Board of Directors, or any one Director, does not mean that those Directors are required leave office. It is up to each Director to choose weather to resign or ignore the motion of no confidence and continue in the role of Director until the next AGM in April 2023. However, the current Board have agreed that should a motion of no confidence be upheld, then we will resign as soon as replacement Directors are appointed.

A motion of no confidence does not immediately exempt current Directors of their responsibility. Our constitution clearly states that we must have 4 appointed Directors for the Board to hold meetings and make decisions. Also, there is the issue of appointing a new Licensee, someone authorised to serve alcohol and manage gaming, transferring banking access and cheques signatories. The Treasurer also wants to be confident that there is appointed a responsible person that can ensure staff wages and entitlements are paid.

Anyone wishing to become a Director must get a ASIC approved Director identification number. Application can be made at <https://www.abrs.gov.au/director-identification-number>
