

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN
DEFENCE FORCE WARGAMING ASSOCIATION (ADFWGA) HEROCON 2024 on
01 DEC 24**

Attendees:

LTCOL D. Hill Chair

COL P. Baldoni
COL C. Benfield
COL N. Bosio
SQNLDR C. Bryers
SQNLDR B. Jordan
MAJ G. Gepp
CAPT J. Salah
CAPT L. Thorpe
LT T. Pieters
SGT J. Ash
SGT A. Collier
SGT P. Hunt
SGT D. Morris
SGT M. Ollett
SGT M. Wade
CPL Z. Campbell

LS C. Long
CPL N. Matthysen
CPL K. Ryan
CPL R. Smith
CPL K. Sullivan
CPL A. Williamson
LCPL S. Chamberlain
LCPL L. Stephens
SPR J. Inwood
TPR T. Draper

SGT A. Moss – Vice Chair
SGT R. King – Committee Member
LCPL S. Livori – Committee Member
Mr A. Thompson – Secretary

Apologies:

COL A. Gunder ADFWGA Patron
SGT M. Cantrell ADFWGA Ordinary Member

Item 1: Opening

1. At 0800h on 01 Dec 24 the Chair declared the meeting open, and members were welcomed to the Annual General Meeting of the ADFWGA held as part of the HEROCON 2024 event. The Chair explained that the meeting was an opportunity for the ADFWGA Committee to update the membership on recent developments and initiatives as well provide a forum for the membership to present ideas to the committee.

Item 2: Acceptance of previous minutes

2. The Chair explained that an ADFWGA GM was held at ANZAC Cup 2024; however, no minute from the meeting were published. The financial report from ANZAC Cup 2024 (Annex A) and HEROCON 2024 (Annex B) would be included with these minutes.

Item 3: ADFWGA update

3. The Chair reflected on the rapid growth of the ADFWGA events in Canberra post the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair noted that HEROCON 2023 had 65 participants, ANZAC Cup 2024 had 100 participants and HEROCON 2024 had 180 participants. In addition to the

increase in the number of participants HEROCON 2024 had 13 different game systems being played including many game systems that had not been featured at an ADFWGA event in the past. In addition to the games systems at HEROCON 2024 space had been provided to facilitate a display from the Army Battle Lab, demonstrations games by the Australian Defence College Wargaming Guild and a Cryptic Battlefield store. Finally, it was noted that there was limited scope for further expansion based on the capacity of the ADFA facility.

4. Prior to progressing with the AGM, the Chair invited COL Nick Bosio (Australian Defence College) and MAJ Andrew Somerville (Army Battle Lab) to address the ADFWGA members.

5. In addition to highlighting the game systems that the Australian Defence College Wargaming Guild would demonstrate at the event, COL Bosio noted the following key points:

a. **Wargaming provides an intellectual edge.** Wargaming helps to build mental models which informs decision making in crisis and conflict.

b. **Wargaming and the profession of arms are historically linked.** Nimitz and Marshall were the products of aggressive wargaming in education, training, policy, and capability development.

c. **ADF doctrine advocates for using wargaming to help with planning creatively.** Wargaming is not only for COA Analysis, it also helps with creativity in tactical and operational art. ADF-P-5 highlights its importance. The recently released ADF-I-5 *Decision-Making and Planning Processes* and War College's Strategic Art handbook both explicitly advocate for wargaming and simulation as a method to increase tactical, operational, and strategic art.

d. **Wargaming helps with mental health.** Wargaming provides a nexus between professional and recreation communities. This nexus is reinforced through the 'lifestyle' nature of the recreational community (hobby, playing, community building), strengthening the bonds of comradery developed in professional setting.

6. MAJ Somerville highlighted the wargaming line of effort within the Army Battle Lab and the professional wargames that were on display as part of HEROCON 2024 including the game recently incorporated into the Royal Military College training curriculum. In addition to he briefed that the Australian expansion to Littoral Commander would be released in 2025. Finally, MAJ Somerville noted that changes within the Land Combat College training curriculums would see increased use of manual wargames on Army's career courses. MAJ Somerville also noted the role that the ADFWGA members can play in continuing to advance professional wargaming within Army more broadly.

Item 4: Reports

7. **Sponsorship.** For the HEROCON 2024 the Chair noted that the ADFWGA secured sponsorship from Cryptic Battlefield and Jolt Games. The details of the sponsorship are contained in the Sponsorship report attached at Annex C

8. **Financial.** IAW Annex B, HEROCON 2024 raised \$7,800.00 for Soldier On – Australia. Since 2011, the ADFWGA has donated over \$124,450 to Legacy and Soldier On

Item 5: ADFWGA Events

9. The Chair noted that it was the intent of the committee to conduct ANZAC Cup 2025 over the weekend of 12 – 13 Apr 2025 and HEROCON 2025 over the weekend of 29 – 30 Nov 25 at ADFA. The Chair explained the opportunities exist for members to run local events leveraging the expertise and experience of the ADFWGA Committee; however, these events will be conducted independently of the ADFWGA brand. The Chair also noted that the Committee is available to provide advice to support the establishment of local clubs, again independent of the ADFWGA brand and that Land Simulation and Wargaming (Battle Lab) are available to support these activities.

Item 6: General Business

10. The Chair noted that the Committee had made a booking for a food van to attend over the course of the HEROCON 2024 weekend; however, despite approval from ADFA the van had not attended. The Committee would continue to research options for catering support.

11. The Chair sought feedback from the members present on how many members were aware of the HEROCON 2024 DEFGRAM and ADMININST and leverage one or both documents to attend the event. The response from the members was that these documents were useful in seeking clearance to attend.

12. The Chair noted that previously the ADFWGA membership had agreed to hold two meetings a year events were held in multiple locations. Now that events were consistently being held in Canberra consideration would be given to returning to a single meeting each year. No objections were raised with this concept; the Committee will look to present a proposal at a future ADFWGA meeting.

Item 7: Close

14. The Chair closed the AGM at 0830h. The next ADFWGA GM will be at ANZAC Cup 2025.

D. Hill
LTCOL
ADFWGA Chair

06 Mar 25

R. King
SGT
ADFWGA Committee Member

06 Mar 25

Annexes:

- A. HEROCON 2024 Sponsorship Report
- B. ANZAC Cup 2024 Financial Report
- C. HEROCON 2024 Financial Report

**HEROCON 2024 (30 Nov - 01 Dec 24)
Sponsorship Report**

**ANNEX A TO
HEROCON 2024 AGM Minutes
06 MAR 2025**

Jolt Games	
Item	
Orc & Goblin tribes - Orc Bosses	
Orc & Goblin tribes - Goblin Mob	
Kingdom of Bretonnia - Peasants	
Orc & Goblin Tribes - Arrer Boyz	
Servo Palette x 2	
Conquest - Centaur Avatara	
Battletech Striker Star	
Kill Team Brood Brother	
Blood Angels Sanguinary Guard	
Combat Patrol Chaos Space Marines	
Star Wars Legion Templates	
Legions Imperialis Mechanicum BG	
SW Legions - Echo Base Defenders	
SW Legions - Echo Base Defenders	
Total	\$ 1,899.40
Paid by ADFWGA	\$ 800.00

Cryptic Battlefield	
Item	
40K Razorback	
40K Darktide	
Robo Rally game	
Conquest - First Blood x 2	
Conquest - Phalangites	
Conquest - Rajakur	
Cyrptic Battlefield T-Shirt x 2	
3D Printed Terrain	
Total	\$ 900.00
Paid by ADFWGA	\$ 250.00

Financial Statement
ANZAC Cup 2024 (13-14 Apr 2024) - Canberra

ANNEX B TO
2024 AGM

Expenses			
Type	Item	Cost	Remarks
Raffle Prizes	3D Printer, Wash and Cure	\$ 1,251.65	Purchased from E-bay
Admin	ADFWGA Website	\$ 415.45	Annual Subscription
Gift	Proxy Wars - sponsorship	\$ 74.23	Model for all participants
Total expenses		\$ 1,741.33	

Incoming			
Type	Item	Amount	Remarks
Entry	Online Entry	\$ 2,506.41	Paypal fees removed (-\$108.59)
Donations	Donations	\$ 911.95	
Raffles	Raffle tickets + Fees	\$ 2,522.97	
Total incoming		\$ 5,941.33	

Overall summary	
Incoming	\$ 5,941.33
Expenses	\$ 1,741.33
Dontation (via Soldier On website)	\$ 4,200.00

Financial Statement
HEROCON 2024 (30 Nov - 01 Dec 2024) - Canberra

ANNEX C TO
2024 AGM

Expenses			
Type	Item	Cost	Remarks
Raffle Prizes	3D Printer, Wash and Cure	\$ 808.82	Anycubic
Raffle Prizes	Jolt Games	\$ 800.00	See invoice (PayPal)
Raffle Prizes	Cryptic Battlefield	\$ 250.00	See invoice
Dice off prize	Modfix case	\$ 219.41	See invoice (PayPal)
Admin	Drinks	\$ 245.70	Woolworths
Admin	Esky / Cooler	\$ 268.00	Bunnings - held by ADFWGA
Dice	Gift / Dice off	\$ 1,000.00	Ordered through Tagged Events
Total expenses		\$ 3,591.93	

Incoming			
Type	Item	Amount	Remarks
Entry	Online Entry	\$ 4,380.16	Paypal fees removed (184.84)
Donations	Donations	\$ 1,542.91	
Dice Off	Dice off cash and online	\$ 644.06	
Dice Sales	ADFWGA Dice	\$ 548.78	
Raffles	Raffle tickets cash and online	\$ 4,111.02	
Drinks		\$ 165.00	
Total incoming		\$ 11,391.93	

Overall summary		
Incoming		\$ 11,391.93
Expenses		\$ 3,591.93
Dontation (via Soldier On website)		\$ 7,800.00