

**Minutes of 3rd TCAA Management Committee (MC) Meeting for 2024-2025
at 7:30pm on Tuesday 25 March 2025.**

1 Welcome and Apologies.

Apologies from: Sam Miller, Elisa; Steve and Lina.

The meeting commenced at 7:35pm.

2. Report from State Vice-President Reps.

- (i) WA: Robert Hall- Report on Memberships, Events and any relevant matter.
- (ii) Qld/NT: Bruce Roggerio- Report on Memberships, Events, and any relevant matter.
- (iii) SA: Fang Qin- Report on Memberships, Events, and any relevant matter.
- (iv) VIC/TAS: Peter Eves- Report on Memberships, Events, Weapon's control and relevant matter.
- (v) NSW/ACT- Steve Heard- Report on Memberships, Events, and any relevant matter.

WA Report:

- Classes are well attended this new year with some free promotional sessions.
- New local MP who looks after Health portfolio may take some interest in Tai Chi for falls prevention and health benefits.

NT/QLD Report:

- Working with Confucius Institute and ChungWah to promote Tai Chi during Chinese New Year. Event was well attended.
- Took a group for demonstrations and promotion of Tai Chi.

SA Report:

- Participation at Chinese New Year celebration to promote Tai Chi.
- World Tai Chi and Qigong Day (WTQD) to be celebrated at two locations, one in city and one in the South, on same day.

VIC Report:

- No application for weapons exemption registered.
- Recent workshop conducted by James was well attended by a number of local Tai Chi schools.

NSW Report:

- TCAA held on 15 March at Niagara Stadium in Central Coast went well.
- Steve to report further at next meeting.
- Lina He to organise this year WTQD in Sydney.

3. Strategy and Promotion of TCAA memberships

James Gao attributed the recent increase in memberships for NSW to the recent 25th anniversary celebration which attracted 12 new members alone. He also said that it proves that events under the TCAA banner is effective for increased memberships.

Peter reported on progress to finalise the flyer/handout about TCAA Member Benefits before they are posted on the TCAA website and in other social media.

Decision and Action taken at meeting:

Subject to any final comments and feedback by MC members by Tuesday 1 April, Peter will go ahead with finalising, developing and publishing a DL/A5 flyer/handout in order to promote and increase memberships base. It was also decided that:

- The flyer/handout can be put out at events, public talks or at other TCAA events.
- A dedicated benefits page on the TCAA website which lists and explains all the benefits.
- The same list of benefits can be posted under the memberships listing navigation bar.
- Have an introductory question *Why Join the TCAA?* Here are the benefits for being a paid member of the TCAA.

4. Treasurer Report- Budget, Process and Guidelines

As a SA Representative, I do not have much disposable fund to do much free public event for promoting TCAA and Tai Chi in general. Issues are:

- (i) How can we raise fund which will be used to promote TCAA branding and Tai Chi in general?
- (ii) As a non-for-profit organisation like TCAA, is it possible to have a clear process how each state should apply for funds and how much each state can have?
- (iii) Since I joined TCAA a few years ago, there is never a fund-raising event mentioned at MC meeting.
- (iv) Anyone who has good fund-raising experience, maybe can share how it works and whether it is worthy for TCAA to explore it, so that TCAA could have more funds, then use it to promote Tai Chi.

Decision and Action taken at meeting:

In the absence of the Treasurer, James made mention that in the past each State had approximately \$400 budget each year which can be used for public events associated with TCAA promotion. Budget allocation for State Reps; Grant and fund-raising matters and details of the process is to be deferred at the next meeting when Sam M is present.

5. Report on Celebration of TCAA's 25th anniversary in 2025-

The celebration of TCAA's 25th anniversary took place on Saturday 22 February 2005 at Fitzroy Hall, in Burwood. The major highlights were: publication of a Souvenir Magazine, printing of T-Shirts and Polo Shirts, 3 seminars followed by catered lunch and Masters' demonstrations.

A report by James and the organising team, namely, Elisa, Sam Miller, Sam Ruan and Cyril on any feedback received and lessons learnt.

Sam M is also to report on donation by ACE Recycling Group for the event. Any review to be undertaken by the TCAA in compliance with the conditions of the donation?

Noting/Result/Action:

James reported on the outcome of the event which was very successful. It was well attended at full capacity with some late people being turned down. The income generated for the event was above expectation. The overall feedback received from participants was very positive.

6. Report from Competition Sub-Committee. Steve (10 Mins)-

The TCAA annual Tai Chi competition took place on 15 March 2025 at Niagara stadium in Central Coast.

A report by the Competition Covenor, Steve Heard, about the event, including the following:

- (i) How the event went and any feedback received?
- (ii) Attendance and registration numbers this year when compared with last year.
- (iii) Income generated and cost of hiring and other related expenses.
- (iv) Any lessons learnt for future events, including the location of next year's event and review of the registration fees to reflect cost recovery principle.
- (v) TCAA Uniform in any future event.

Noting/Result/Action:

In the absence of Steve Heard, it was decided to defer discussions of above matters at the next meeting.

Competition Sub-Committee (Push hands)- organising national competition (push hands) and any related matters. Led by James Gao.

James reported that he contacted many Tai Chi schools all around Australia with push hands applications, with only one responded with interest. In the circumstance, it is unlikely that one will be organised this year in 2025.

7. Report from Publication and Webmaster Sub-Committee.

An update by the TCAA social media administrator, Jon Zhou, in relation to the management and co-ordination of all social media, including, Website, Newsletter, WeChat, Whatsapp, Facebook, as well as the TCAA newsletters.

Noting/Result/Action:

Jon reported on the following:

1. New Website Development:

- Quentin and Jon to commence WordPress testing in April 2025.
- If successful, data migration to the new system will commence in May 2025.

2. Social Media Updates:

- A new Facebook group has been created for TCAA members and gained over 400 members.
- Continue growing engagement on Facebook and other social media platforms.

3. Newsletter Updates:

- The TCAA Newsletter January 2025 had an open rate of 67%.
- The next issue is scheduled in April 2025 and will include the 25th Anniversary Celebration and 2025 Championships.

8. Report from Health Sub-Committee. Cyril

Health Sub-committee- Research, summarise and share research findings with members and relevant organisations on the health benefits of Tai Chi for chronic medical conditions.

Since 1999, the Federal government undertook a *review of natural therapies for private health insurance rebates*, and TCAA ongoing participation at stakeholders' meetings.

Noting/Result/Action:

Sam Ruan reported on the following:

- Jon and Sam R attended the 14th stakeholders' meeting held on Thursday 30 January 2025 at 10:30am.
- Jon and Sam were advised that it was the final meeting because the review of the subject matter has been completed.
- The review report is to be publicly handed down following the approval of the Minister for Health.

9. Learning and Development Sub-Committee- organising on-line and face-to-face seminars and workshops. Led by Jon Zhou, Sam R and James

At the last meeting, the following seminars were approved for 2025.

- (i) Tai Chi and Traditional Chinese Medicine.
- (ii) Tai Chi and Healthcare

Any Update by Jon of any timelines in planning and organising the events.

Noting/Result/Action:

- Jon will deliver an online Tai Chi and TCM workshop for CMASA on 13 April 2025.
- Tai Chi and Healthcare Workshop/Seminar with Western Sydney University in 2025 – Confirmation required from Research Fellow, Emily Yang. The timing will be towards the end of 2025.

10. Engagement Sub-Committee. James and Cyril

Engagement Sub-Committee- liaising with other national and international counterparts relating to Tai Chi cultural events with a view to participate and establish a calendar of events for members. Led by James and Cyril.

At the last meeting, MC approved the participation of the TCAA at the forthcoming Yang Style Taiji cultural event in Xian on 11-13 April 2025 with a budget of up to \$1,000 to cover TCAA members' registration fees.

Noting/Result/Action:

Cyril reported that 27 TCAA members, including 6 MC members, will attend the event with the majority having registered for the Xi'an Tai Chi international competition which the entry fees will be funded by the TCAA. The cost to the TCAA of about \$700 will be offset by new memberships fees and sponsorship.

11. Report from Resource Development Sub-Committee.

Resource Development Sub-Committee- Explore and implement methods to raise funds (cash or in kind), including sponsorships and grants, for TCAA. Led by Sam Miller and Cyril.

Sam M is to report of any proposals and initiatives that can be undertaken during 2025.

The TCAA will be looking at sponsorships for the new TCAA Website.

Noting/Result/Action:

This matter will be placed back on the agenda at the next meeting in the absence of Sam Miller.

12. TCAA Tai Chi/Qigong Accreditation & Instructor Certificate

Concerns were raised by MC members in relation to a peak fitness body (AUSactive) setting up a registration system for Tai Chi professional Instructors course and the adverse impact this may have on the Tai Chi industry and its current *modus operandi*.

With its 25 years of experience representing and promoting all styles of Tai Chi at the national level, the TCAA is well placed to take up this important and challenging role to ensure that the standard, integrity and values of Tai Chi is maintained in Australia.

Decision and Action taken at last meeting:

- MC endorsed in principle the proposal for the TCAA to provide an Accreditation of Tai Chi Instructor at the national level, to commence in around mid-2025.
- A sub-committee comprising of Peter Eves; Jon Zhou; Elisa Palazzo; James Gao and Tara Brayshaw, is to be established and provide final document at the next MC meeting scheduled, for ratification.
- Sub-committee is to commence scope of work, including an accreditation framework, vetting process and timelines.

Noting/Result/Action:

On 3 March 2025, James Gao circulated to MC members for their consideration two draft documents related to the TCAA Instructor Accreditation Program. One document relates to

the submission and the other one for an overview of the accreditation framework. Copies are enclosed.

There are three categories to be assessed for the Level 1 Instructor's accreditation:

1. Tai Chi Skills and Knowledge (Specialist Component)
2. Instructing Skills (Educator Component)
3. Professional Standards Compliance (Ethical and Professional Component)

Each category, there are many pathways or options to choose to be assessed upon. It is the subcommittee's view to set a high but reasonable standard for the TCAA Accredited Tai Chi Instructor in differentiation to another Tai Chi accreditation program.

Since the circulation of the draft framework on 3 March 2025, MC members have reviewed the content and provided a list of matters for consideration by the sub-committee, as per enclosed document.

James reported on the hard work undertaken by the sub-committee for the past 3 months, in the development of the framework. He said that the bar for the accreditation of Tai Chi Instructor has been set reasonably high and the initial aim was to set one level only. He also took note of the feedback received and said that they are mainly related to the implementation phase. He sought approval for more detailed work on the framework which will include developing an application form to become a TCAA Tai Chi instructor.

Action: Decision to Approve or Not Approve

The Management Committee has decided to approve the framework completed to-date. The sub-committee will now start working on the implementation plan which will take consideration of the feedback received.

13. Any other Business.

(i) Composition of the TCAA Management Committee Members by States and Territories:

Currently, the TCAA has the following representatives:

NSW/ACT:	10 (-4)
VIC/TAS:	1 (+1)
SA:	1 (+1)
QLD/NT:	1 (+1)
WA:	1 (+1)

It is proposed to increase the representations by States (other than NSW/ACT) by one each and to reduce the representations for NSW/ACT by the same corresponding number, as shown in Table (+ or -) above.

At the meeting, the main reasons put forward for the proposal to increase the representatives of interstate MC members were as follows: firstly, this will mean more resources to increase membership base; secondly to have a second person in the event that a sitting MC member is

not available at a given meeting; and thirdly, to have a succession plan in place in the long term.

Action: Decision to Approve or Not Approve

The decision to increase the composition of interstate representations has been approved.

(ii) Forthcoming MC meetings:

Tuesday 24 June 2025, from 7:30-9:30pm

MCs noted the date of the next meeting and reminded members of the timing of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) with similar election method as in the past.

In the absence of any other business, the meeting ended at about 9:03pm.

