

Commission to run Apia Club elections

FORMER Apia Club employee Tony Spagnola has claimed victory after a Supreme court challenge over the running of the club's elections was settled out of court.

by MEGAN MILLER

The Apia Club has settled by agreeing to hold an election of board members under the control and direction of the Electoral Commissioner.

Mr Spagnola had subpoenaed the board's members to the Supreme Court alleging that the elections in December 1989 had not been conducted according to the club's articles of association.

"I am pleased to hear that the club has agreed to meet most of my requirements," Mr Spagnola said last week.

"There are many people who are very unhappy about the way the elections are run; the procedure was misleading to the club's members," Mr Spagnola had said in his affidavit to the court.

A spokesman for the State Electoral Commission said the Apia Soccer Club at Leichhardt would now apply to the licensing court for the appointment of an electoral returning officer to run future elections.

"It's quite a quick process but we need the club to apply before we go ahead and take over," he said.

"Registered clubs have only started taking advantage of this service over the past three years because the returning officer is an independent

body which is beyond reproach and makes sure things are run fair and square."

The club will be given the choice as to whether the elections are run by way of post ballot or polling booths.

"It all depends on the club but the majority of elections run by the commission are run by post ballot," the spokesman said.

"Either way the election will be controlled by the appointed returning officer who will be given access to membership rolls."

Mr Spagnola said he plans to take the club to court to recover \$11,000 in court costs.

"I strongly believe the expenses should be met by the other party," he said.

In a separate move against the club, Mr Spagnola has subpoenaed documents from an Italian airline company after allegations that 200 new members joined the club through the airline's sponsorship just 10 days before the last election.

"The airline and the Apia Club has until October 3 to hand over documents relating to sponsorship for 200 new members just before the last elections," Mr Spagnola said.

Despite repeated phone calls, the management of the Apia Club refused to speak to the *Glebe*.

Sale sets a record



THIS cedar office chair has sold at a Lewis & Clark auction for \$7250 — believed to be a world record price.

A Harris Auctions spokesman said he was amazed. "It realised \$7250 against an estimate of \$500 to \$2000," he said.

The chair was made by Australian furniture maker Andrew Lenahan who made the most significant furniture pieces in Government House, Sydney.

"He made the swivel chair between 1858 and 1866 for explorer Hamilton Hume and was used at Hume at Cooma Cottage, Yass," he said.

"It was sold to a Sydney collector for a price considered to be a world record for this type of chair."

"The chair has a cane seat and the back has a cane splat," the spokesman said.

Bid to stop election of Brady fails

by TERRI COWLEY

LABOR Alderman Bill Brady slid into the Mayoral chair at Leichhardt on Saturday after a bid failed to tip the balance against him.

Mr Brady's name was drawn from the hat after he and independent Alderman Larry Hand had six votes each at the ballot box.

Outgoing Mayor Issy Wyner and fellow independent Nick Origlass had tried to rejoin the Labor Party at the 11th hour to tip the balance of power in Mr Hand's direction, who was also a candidate to rejoin the party.

But a member of the party's review tribunal, Ashfield Mayor Lew Herman, said Mr Wyner and Mr Origlass wrongly applied for continuance of membership rather than re-entry, and Mr Hand failed to turn up at the meeting so he was not considered.

"The chairman did not allow any debate to take place because they were not currently members of the party," Mr Herman said.

Mr Wyner and Mr Origlass were expelled from the Labor Party in 1968 for protesting against the

installation of chemical storage tanks at Balmain.

If they had rejoined the party Mr Brady may not have been endorsed as mayoral candidate by the Labor caucus.

Labor Alderman Kate Butler became Deputy Mayor after another draw out of the hat with independent Steve Smith.

Ms Butler broke caucus and gave her support to Mr Hand in the mayoral vote — a move that could see her thrown out of the party.

Mr Brady, who was mayor from 1984 to 1987, said he would cooperate with the State Government which was investigating council and had installed a planning administrator for Balmain.

"I think council has tried confrontation and it hasn't worked," he said.

"It is now time for conciliation and sensible discussion. We have never gone to the table."

While Mr Wyner and his supporters condemned the appointment of planning administrator Sean O'Toole, Mr Brady said he was not concerned about council's loss of power.

"We are still giving input into it — he just has the final decision," he said.

Mr Brady, an alderman since 1983, said he had no plans to leave local government.

He was concerned about moves in the Labor Party that had seen Mr Wyner's and Mr Origlass' memberships come up for review.

Mr Brady said his priorities as Mayor would be to clean up streets, improve roads and improve garbage services.

"There has been too much concentration on building and not enough in all the many services provided by council," he said.

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