

To: RSL Queensland Directors
District Presidents, District Secretaries
Sub Branch Presidents, Sub Branch Secretaries

Re: Nominations for two skills-based Board Director positions

Date: 3 May 2024

Dear Directors, District and Sub Branch Presidents and District Secretaries

As you may recall, two skills-based Board Director positions are open for election at the Annual General Meeting of RSL Queensland on 22 June 2024. A call for nominations for the two Board Director positions was distributed to members as required under the Constitution and By-Laws on 22 January 2024 and two nominations have been subsequently received (i.e., one nomination for each of the positions)

The RSL Queensland By-Laws require all District and Sub Branches to be provided with a list of nominations received, at least one month prior to the AGM. The nominations received were from each of the Directors currently holding the Board Director positions open for election, whose details are contained in the attached nomination forms.

As the two Board Director positions are uncontested, the RSL Queensland By-Laws provide that no vote is required, and that the Chair is to declare that the candidates (being the Directors currently holding these positions) are duly elected at the AGM.

Please disseminate this information to your members.

Yours sincerely
Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch)



Hayley Stephens
Company Secretary
3 May 2024

ANZAC House, 283 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006
Phone 07 3634 9444 Email reception@rslqld.org

 rslqld.org



RSL
Queensland

Section 1 – Candidate Details

1.1 Personal details

Surname	Gould
First names	Nicholas Larry
Preferred name	Nic
Honours and awards (if applicable)	

1.2 League details

District Branch	Brisbane North
Sub Branch	Gaythorne

Period of Sub Branch Membership

Date from	Date to	Sub Branch
August 2021	Present	Gaythorne

League Service (including appointments and service as a delegate of Board Member)

Date from	Date to	Appointment
December 2023	Present	Chair – RSL Queensland Audit and Risk Committee
November 2022	Present	Board Director – RSL Queensland State Branch
August 2021	November 2022	Board Director – Gaythorne RSL Sub-branch

1.3 Military History

Brief Military History

Date from	Date to	Service
06 Feb 2006	01 July 2008	Australian Army Reserve – Infantry Corps
01 July 2008	06 Feb 2015	Australian Regular Army – Intelligence Corps Deployments to Afghanistan (Op Slipper) in 2011 and 2013.
01 July 2017	01 March 2019	Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

1.4 Education

Educational Qualifications

Qualification	Year obtained	Institution
Certificate of Governance and Risk Management	2021	Governance Institute of Australia
Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice	2020	College of Law
Bachelor of Laws	2018	University of Southern Queensland
Graduate Certificate in Intelligence	2012	Queensland University of Technology

Section 2 – Candidate Motivation and Ambition

2.1 Candidate Motivation

Why are you nominating to be appointed to the Board of Directors?

I am renominating for the skills-based Director role on the board of RSL Queensland State Branch because I firmly believe in the transformative power of effective governance and the critical role it plays in shaping the future of our organisation.

As an Afghanistan veteran myself, I am deeply invested in the welfare of my fellow veterans and their families. My firsthand experience with the challenges they face has fuelled my commitment to advocacy and support within the veteran community. I see serving on the Board of Directors as an unparalleled opportunity to leverage my skills, experiences, and networks to drive meaningful improvements in the services and support we provide as well as doing my bit towards the next 106 years of the RSL.

Having served in both the public and private sectors, including as a Co-founder and Director of several private companies, a managing Director of a Queensland based law firm as a practicing principal solicitor and as a Board Director of a RSL sub-branch, I bring a diverse range of experiences and perspectives to the table. My time on the board of the RSL Queensland State Branch has reinforced my dedication to effecting positive change within the RSL organisation. I am eager to continue to apply the lessons learned and insights gained from these roles to help elevate RSL Queensland's standing in the community and optimise our delivery of services to veterans and their families.

In my current secondary role as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, I am fully committed to ensuring that our organisation is strategically postured to manage risk effectively as we navigate the challenges of the future. This experience has provided me with invaluable insights into the importance of sound risk management practices and the critical role they play in safeguarding the interests of our organisation and its stakeholders.

Above all, it is my unwavering commitment to giving back to the community that has shaped my life journey that motivates me to seek this appointment. I am deeply grateful for the support and camaraderie I have received from the veteran community, and I am driven by a profound sense of duty to pay it forward in any way I can.

I am incredibly excited about the opportunity to continue to contribute to the RSL Queensland Board of Directors and to play a part in shaping a brighter future for our organisation and the veterans and families we serve.

2.2 Candidate Ambition

What do you wish to accomplish as a Director, for both RSL Queensland and yourself?

As a current volunteer Director of RSL Queensland, I am deeply committed to driving meaningful change and contributing to the organisation's success, while also nurturing personal and professional growth. My aspirations for both RSL Queensland and myself align closely with our shared values and objectives.

Moreover, I am deeply passionate about the growth and longevity of RSL Queensland. I believe that increasing brand awareness and fostering community engagement are essential aspects of achieving this goal. Leveraging my knowledge, skills, and experience, I am eager to contribute to the continued success and relevance of the RSL for another century of service to veterans and their families.

In addition to these priorities, I am committed to assisting with the implementation of a comprehensive capital management framework, which will enable prudent financial decision-making and resource allocation. Furthermore, I will continue, as the chair of the audit and risk committee, to champion a risk-based approach to organisational management, ensuring that RSL Queensland remains resilient in the face of future challenges and opportunities.

Finally, I am dedicated to empowering and enabling our sub-branches to thrive, recognising their invaluable contributions to the RSL's purpose. Central to this commitment is the unwavering focus on the care, commemoration, and comradery of our veteran community, ensuring that they receive the support and recognition they deserve.

In summary, my goals as a Director of RSL Queensland encompass both organisational success and personal fulfillment. I am motivated by the opportunity to lead positive change and am confident that my skills and experiences will serve the board and our veteran community well.

Section 3 – Experience and Expertise

Note: Please indicate in which of the following you have: Director, executive leadership and/or C-suite experience. Further details of the skills included within each competency are provided in the Board Skills Matrix.

Competencies	Director, executive leadership and/or C-suite experience Tick if applicable
Board Director and/or Board Committee Member	X
Governance	X
Financial Literacy	
Risk Management	X
Strategy Development	X
Government Relations, Advocacy, and Policy	X
People and Culture	
Program Evaluation and Impact	X
Corporate Partnerships and Sponsorships	X
Marketing and Brand	
Business Transformation	X
Technology, Cyber and Digital	X
Community Engagement	X



Section 4 – Endorsement and Consent

Note: Please ensure your nomination is proposed and seconded by a Service or Life Member.

4.1 Proposer details and signature

Surname	Hetherington
First names	William
Preferred name	Will
Honours and awards (if applicable)	
District Branch	Brisbane North
Sub Branch	Gaythorne

Signature	
Date	18/3/24

4.2 Seconder details and signature

Surname	Gordon
First names	Kratzmann
Preferred name	GORDON
Honours and awards (if applicable)	
District Branch	Brisbane North
Sub Branch	Geebung KEDRON-NAVELL

Signature	
Date	19/3/2024



4.3 Candidate consent

I, Nicholas Larry Gould
(Full name)

of the Caythorne Sub Branch
(Sub branch)

within the Brisbane North District Branch
(District Branch)

- confirm that I have read and understood the Director Position Description.
- confirm that I have familiarised myself with both the ACNC Governance Standards and Governance for Good: the ACNC's Guide for Charity Board Members.
- confirm that I am not disqualified from managing a corporation within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), and have not been disqualified by the ACNC at any time from being a responsible person of a registered charity.
- consent to being nominated for election as a Director of RSL Queensland, and if elected, to act as a Director of RSL Queensland in accordance with the RSL Queensland Code of Conduct.
- consent to this form and accompanying information (including your resume/Curriculum Vitae) being made available to members for the purpose of informing them regarding my nomination if I am deemed to be a suitable candidate.

[Handwritten Signature]
(Candidate signature)

18 March 2024
(Date)

Curriculum Vitae

Nicholas Gould

Australian Army

- 2006 -2015
- Royal Australian Infantry Corps
- Australian Intelligence Corps
- Afghanistan 2011/2013



With over a decade of corporate experience, Nicholas is an experienced executive serving on both corporate and not-for-profit boards as well as executive leadership roles. As a practicing principal solicitor and an experienced business leader, Nicholas brings a unique value proposition to any organisation. Further, as a current Director of RSL Queensland as well as the Chair of the RSL Queensland Audit and Risk Committee, Nicholas brings a great deal of knowledge and experience into the strategic leadership of both private and not-for-profit organisations.

Nicholas has extensive knowledge of organisational operations, legal and commercial management as well as enterprise risk management. He spent the formative years of his career as a Specialist Intelligence Officer in the Australian Army, before moving into private enterprise in the legal and professional services sector at GKS Law, McCullough Robertson Lawyers, KPMG and Downer; followed by time abroad as a risk and governance adviser with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) at the Australian embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia. Nicholas now runs his own law firm, specialising in property law as well as being the co-founder and Director of Protegas Australia, a veteran owned intelligence consulting firm based in Brisbane.

Nicholas excels at developing professional relationships with both internal and external stakeholders to deliver high quality outcomes. Nicholas has a passion for the advocacy for veterans and their families through his role as a Director of a RSL Queensland and through the corporate support and donations to organisations such as SoldierOn and Legacy.

In his spare time, Nicholas enjoys spending time with his wife and children who call Brisbane home.

Qualifications

- Graduate Certificate in Intelligence – Queensland University of Technology
- Bachelor of Laws – University of Southern Queensland
- Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice – College of Law Queensland
- Certificate of Governance and Risk Management – Governance Institute of Australia
- Member – Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Admission

- Lawyer – Queensland Supreme Court
- Lawyer – High Court of Australia

Employment History

Returned and Services League Queensland State Branch

Title: Board Director and Chair (Audit and Risk Committee)

Start/End Dates: November 2022 - Present

Colwell Legal Pty Ltd (Colwell Conveyancing Group)

Title: Managing Director & Legal Practice Director

Start/End Dates: March 2022 - Present

Gaythorne Returned and Services League Sub-Branch

Title: Board Director

Start/End Dates: September 2021 – November 2022

Protegas Australia Pty Ltd

Title: Co-Founder and Director

Start/End Dates: July 2020 - Present

GKS Law

Title: Solicitor & Commercial Team Lead

Start/End Dates: July 2021 – March 2022

McCullough Robertson Lawyers

Title: Associate Director - Commercial

Start/End Dates: March 2020 – July 2021

Downer Professional Services

Title: Manager

Start/End Dates: January 2019 – March 2020

HART International

Title: Risk and Governance Adviser (Australian Embassy Jakarta, Indonesia)

Start/End Dates: August 2017- February 2019

KPMG

Title: Management Consultant – Defence and National Security

Start/End Dates: September 2015 – August 2017

Australian Army

Title: Specialist Intelligence Officer

Start/End Dates: July 2008 – February 2015