

## Round 1 Scenario 2016

### BACKGROUND:

At the end of last year Max, Sam, Jules and Ollie were elected to the student representative council (SRC) of their school. The SRC comprises 7 members being 1 person elected from years 7 to 11 and the school captain (Jules) and vice captain (Ollie) from year 12. The year 7 representative is elected in the first term of the new year. The SRC is the forum for the students to discuss school policies and initiatives that affect the students of the school. The representatives from each year are responsible for consulting the students in their year. Jules and Ollie have known each other for 6 years and are friends. The other SRC members do not have anything in common with each other apart from their membership of the SRC.

The last meeting of the SRC last year discussed fund raising initiatives and events for the new school year. Max (year 10) had proposed that funds should be raised for costumes, makeup and props for the annual school play. Sam (year 11) had proposed that funds should be raised for accommodation and travel costs for the school football team to participate in the annual state championships. Ollie had proposed that funds should be raised for timber, gardening tools, seeds and composting bins for a new school vegetable garden.

Various possible fundraising events were discussed such as a cake stall, BBQ's, book fair, raffle and mufti day. Jules (the School Captain) and Ollie (the Vice Captain) informed the SRC that based on past experience the fund raising events were likely to raise approximately \$1500.00 and would be unlikely to be enough to fund all of the proposed initiatives. Max, Sam and Ollie agreed to do some research and prepare a budget for each of their proposals over the summer holidays. All of the SRC members indicated they would try to think of some other fund raising ideas over the holidays.

During the summer holidays Max prepared a budget for the school play with help from the performing arts teachers. The budgeted costs for props, costumes, makeup, advertising, programmes and tickets are \$10,000.00. The estimated income from ticket sales is \$4,500.00. Max's parents managed to secure a verbal commitment from the producer of Strictly Ballroom to give the school first option to buy some of the props and costumes from the popular musical when it finished its Australian tour and an estimate that it would cost approximately \$2,000.00 to buy the 4 main costumes. This amount is included in the budget.

Sam's mother, a travel agent, prepared a budget for the football team's trip to the state championships. The budgeted costs are \$700.00 per player for transport, accommodation and food. The school sport budget normally pays the fees for team registration, referees and venues. Sam attended a football skills holiday camp. A number of other students from the school also attended the same camp and Sam collected signatures from those students to a petition calling for the SRC to donate funds towards the accommodation and travel costs of the football team attending the state championships.

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Ollie researched the products needed for the vegetable garden and estimates that approximately \$900.00 is required to purchase the necessary supplies. Ollie's parents managed to obtain an offer in writing from a well known hardware supply company to match the dollars raised by the school with discounts on gardening supplies purchased from that company.

The other members of the SRC collected donations from local businesses to be used as prizes for the raffle. The prizes are worth approximately \$500.00.

Jo Knox, one of the students who graduated from the school last year, was badly hurt in an accident. Jo has been advised that Jo may never walk again and will require expensive rehabilitation and equipment. Jules lives in the same street as Jo Knox and their families are friends. Jules attended a fund raising dinner for Jo.

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### THE INCIDENT

In the second week of term 1 of the new school year the SRC held its first meeting. Max, Sam and Ollie presented the results of the research they had done over the holidays, their budgets and Sam presented the petition from the soccer team.

At this point Jules interrupted the discussion and said “There has been a change to the fund raising agenda for this year. Sadly, Jo Knox, one of the students who graduated from this school last year was badly hurt in an accident during schoolies week and may never walk again. Jo requires expensive rehabilitation and equipment. During the holidays I was invited, as school captain, to a fund raising dinner for Jo. I promised that the school would raise funds and donate them to Jo’s family to help Jo.”

Sam said “You had no right to do that! You should have asked the SRC first.”

Max said “Sam, I don’t much like your petition from the football team but I agree with what you said. The SRC should make the decisions about school fundraising.”

Jules responded “Whatever you think, the right thing for the students to do is help Jo, so we need to move on and discuss how we are going to raise the funds for Jo.”

Sam said “Well, if that’s your attitude to the SRC, you can discuss fundraising without me” and left the meeting. Max followed him.

Ollie said “I think we should adjourn the meeting until next week so we can think about the situation. Does everyone agree?”

Jules and the other members of the SRC agreed with Ollie and so the meeting was adjourned until next week.

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### AFTERMATH

Jules and Ollie have to report to the Principal on the outcome of the SRC meeting. They don't know whether Max and Sam will be coming to the next meeting. If Max and Sam do not come back, then the rest of the SRC will have to do a lot more work to organise the fundraising events. The Principal is likely to say that if Jules and Ollie cannot convince Max and Sam to return to the SRC then the school will have to hold elections for new SRC representatives for their respective years. This will delay the fundraising and other events that the SRC is responsible for organising.

Max has to report to the Performing Arts club. If the SRC won't be contributing any funds for the play then the PA club will have to raise more funds to buy materials to make their own props and costumes and to pay for makeup, advertising, programmes and tickets.

Sam has to report to the rest of the football team. If the SRC won't be contributing any funds to the team this year then the football team, led by Sam as captain, will have to raise their own funds otherwise the whole team might not be able to afford to make the trip to the championships.

Ollie has to report to the Environment Club. If the SRC won't be contributing funds for the vegetable garden this year the club may have to postpone its plans for the garden until next year and come up with another initiative to improve the school's environment and sustainability this year.

## Round 1 Confidential Facts

### Jules

Jules was proud of having made the commitment to help Jo and Jo's family and felt it was the right thing to do at the time. Now, Jules is embarrassed that the SRC has not backed the initiative. Jules wants to be remembered by the school community as a good captain of the school. Jules is anxious about telling the Principal that Sam and Max have left the SRC as it reflects badly on Jules' leadership abilities.

Jules is also concerned that if Max and Sam organise their own fundraising events then there may be too many events for the school community to support and that the SRC may not be able to raise as much money as last year.

Jules thinks that Ollie should support Jules at the SRC meetings as Ollie is the Vice Captain and the other representative from year 12. Jules knows that Ollie is disappointed about the funds for the vegetable garden and wants to do something to thank Ollie for supporting Jules at the SRC.

## Round 1 Confidential Facts

### Max

Max doesn't know Jo Knox but feels sympathy for Jo and would like to help.

Max is annoyed with Sam for organising a petition from the football team. Max thinks that Sam has unfairly tried to pressure the SRC into allocating funds for the football team.

Max wants to make a career in the performing arts and needs the experience of producing the school play. Max's parents are supportive and want to help Max as much as they can. Max knows that the Strictly Ballroom costumes are not essential but would have been useful to get free publicity and attract a bigger audience to buy tickets to see the play. Max could try to hire the costumes instead of buying them.

Max knows that the income from ticket sales is not enough to pay for the production. Max wonders whether the students who want to act in the play would pay a contribution to the production costs, say \$250 each. Anyway, the Performing Arts club will need to raise extra funds to produce the play.

## Round 1 Confidential Facts

### Sam

Sam is furious that Jules has not respected the other members of the SRC. Sam has always suspected that the school captain and vice captain do what they want and the other members of the SRC are just a token gesture to make the rest of the students feel included.

Sam does not know Jo Knox and feels that Jo's needs are separate from the needs of the school community and should not take priority over them when it comes to school based fundraising.

Sam, as captain, wants the football team to do well at the state championships and needs the whole team to participate to maximise their chances. Sam's mother says that the team can try to keep expenses to a minimum by asking for some players to be billeted with local players' families and by car pooling with only one parent per car instead of hiring a bus. But the team will still need to raise funds for petrol, some accommodation, food and gifts for the families they stay with.

## Round 1 Confidential Facts

### Ollie

Ollie also knows Jo Knox and understands why Jules wants to help but wishes that Jules had waited to consult the SRC before making the commitment.

Ollie wants to do the right thing for the students as Vice Captain and thinks that means trying to keep the SRC together rather than always supporting Jules at SRC meetings.

Ollie wonders whether a possible solution is to devote the proceeds of one fundraising event, for example the raffle, to helping Jo Knox. That way, those people who want to help Jo can contribute funds to that event.

Ollie knows the vegetable garden could wait for another year but then Ollie won't be at school to lead the Environment club and see the garden come to fruition. Ollie would like to include the vegetable garden project on her CV as an example of her leadership and project management skills and commitment to sustainability.

Ollie wonders whether the Environment club can apply for an Ecoschool Government Grant for \$2500 for the vegetable garden or implement another sustainability project which does not require any funds from the SRC such as an Earthhour event.