



RTBU NSW

NEWSFLASH

LOCO DIVISION

May 18, 2018

Southern Shorthaul Railway Enterprise Agreement Negotiations Update

On 02 May 2018, SSR Management met with the RTBU. Both the RTBU and SSR have agreed to have more regular meetings not exceeding 2 weeks apart in an effort to have this agreement finalised as soon as possible.

The RTBU reviewed the original log of claims in order to make sure that every item was discussed. Below is a summary of the log of claims from October 2016, and where the RTBU and SSR are up to.

First book-off day to be 30 hours in duration starting at midnight, and all subsequent book-off days to be in 24-hour clocks (current EA says single-day book-offs are 30 hours in duration, and multi-day book-offs are 24 hours each): SSR management is considering the first duty-free day at 30 hours, and all consecutive days to be taken in 24-hour blocks.

Annual leave to commence no later than 2000 the day before, and not signed back on before 0600 on the day of return from leave: This is agreed.

Annual leave rosters to be created with employees determining when they want leave: Clause to be inserted into the EA regarding the annual leave roster in which Members will be able to nominate there next year's Annual Leave.

A minimum of four book-off days per fortnight: The RTBU is waiting on final wording and agreement, but duty-free days will not be 'rolled over' into the next duty cycle but will instead be taken by an employee so that they get to enjoy all of their duty-free days.

Timeframes for laying back / lifting up: This is agreed. We are waiting on wording, but SSR will draft up a clause to the effect of there being no circumstances under which SSR may lay back or lift up an employee with less than two hours notice prior to the commencement of their shift.

Minimum rostered shift of 6 hours: This has been agreed.

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Progression through classification structure within 2 years: This has been agreed.

Duty cycle of 4 weeks (currently 988 hours): Not agreed.

Lifting of restrictions for provision of doctor's certificate: It was agreed that a provision should be inserted into the EA in order to clarify when a medical certificate is required.

'Expectation' to come in on day off to be removed in order to reflect the ability of an employee to choose whether or not they attend work ad-hoc when needed: This is agreed. The RTBU is waiting on words from SSR to make it clear that an employee has a choice not to come into work, rather than being 'expected' to.

Rosters to be posted a fortnight in advance: This is agreed. SSR will provide wording to insert wording into EA to this effect.

Decent pay increase: The RTBU Proposed: Clause 16.5 of the EA + 3% (first year), 2.5% (second year), 2.5% (third year) and 2.5% (fourth year). This works out to be 1.17% more than SSR's last offer. We are waiting on response from SSR.

The next proposed meeting is scheduled for the 17 May 2018. We will keep members advised as to the progress of negotiations and will issue another Newsflash following the next meeting.

Not a member? Join today! If you have any questions, please contact the RTBU Head Office on (02) 9264 3400.