University of Canberra Hockey Club

2017 Annual Report



University of Canberra Hockey Club UC Clubs and Society PO Box 5001 BRUCE ACT 2617

www.uchockey.com.au

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UC Hockey AGM Agenda

- 1. Minutes from 2016 AGM
- 2. Business arising from 2016 minutes
- 3. Amended by-laws
- 4. Presentation of the Annual Reports
- 5. Elections:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - (5) Directors of the Board of Management
 - Coordinators of the club
- 6. CL Merger
- 7. Other business

University of Canberra Hockey Club Annual General Meeting

August 25 2016

Chairing the Meeting: Jolly Moore

1. Minutes from 2015 AGM

Motion: To accept minutes as an accurate record.

Moved by Jolly Moore. Accepted by Suzi Foley, Seconded by Jackson Leckie.

2. Business arising from 2015 minutes

None

3. Presentation of Committee Reports

Reports pre-distributed open to comments from the floor.

President's Report – No comments received.

Finance Report – No comments received.

Teams and Coaching Report – No comments received.

PR and Fundraising Report – No comments received.

Umpiring Report – No comments received.

4. Elections:

Returning officer

Nominations:

- Stephen Madden (Jolly Moore, Tessa Bailey) Nomination accepted
- Stephen Madden Elected

President

Nominations:

- Jolly Moore (Sean Willis, Millie Butt) –Nomination accepted
- Jolly Moore Elected

Vice President

Nominations:

- Jess Edington (Ash Malcolm, Ange Arblaster) Nomination accepted
- Millie Butt (Alisha Nolan, Tessa Bailey) Nomination accepted
- Millie Butt elected

(5) Directors of the Board of Management

Nominations:

- Jess Edington (Meaghan Clack, Sean Willis) Nomination accepted
- Ash Malcolm (Meaghan Clack, Jess Edington) Nomination accepted
- Lincoln Green (Chantelle Blackwell, Sean Willis) Nomination accepted
- Tessa Bailey (Suzi Foley, Millie Butt) Nomination accepted
- Alisha Nolan (Jen Feltham, Reita Holmes) Nomination accepted
- All nominations elected

Treasurer

Nominations:

- Jackson Leckie (Ash Malcolm, Sean Willis) Nomination accepted
- Jackson Leckie elected

Summer hockey coordinator (organise twilight and indoor)

Nominations:

- Meaghan Clack (Ash Malcolm, Morgan Evans) Nomination accepted
- Meaghan Clack elected

Recruitment and Development

Nominations:

No nominations. Position will be advertised.

Equipment Officer

Nominations:

- James Watson (Jackson Leckie, Sean Willis). Nomination accepted
- James Watson elected.

Records Officer

Nominations:

- Ian Morrow (Sarah Broomhall, Sean Willis) Nomination accepted.
- Ian Morrow elected

7. Other business

Life membership

- Nominations:
 - Dave McNally Accepted
 - John Blood Accepted
 - Stephen Hood Accepted

• Questions:

- Concerns about player flow down especially regarding WSL4 how will the BoM address this next year? Addressed by Linc – plans to look at team numbers and number of players per team. Talk to HACT about CL grades commencing the season at the same time as SL grades. BoM will look at process of selection for teams next year i.e. selection panel. BoM open to suggestions.
- Request for Summer season to be promoted
- Issues with communication from coaches to players and between coaches
- Question to HACT as to why we can't regrade throughout the season addressed by Sean as HACT rep.
- Question about alternate uniform for grades with two UCHC teams HACT (Sean) says alternate uniform can be used for the whole season

Meeting closed: 7:28pm

2017 Board of Management Committees

Board of Management

President Jolly Moore

Vice President Millie Butt

Secretary Tessa Bailey

Finance Director Jessica Edington

Teams and Coaching Director Lincoln Green

Umpiring Director Ashlee Malcolm

Public Relations Director Alisha Nolan

President's Report

As another season comes to an end this report is a good chance to look at the highlights of 2017 and make some recommendations for next year.

2017 BoM

Millie Butt – VP
Tessa Bailey – Secretary
Jess Edington – Finance Director
Lincoln Green – Teams & Coaching Director
Ashlee Malcolm – Umpiring Director
Alisha Nolan – Fundraising/Social/PR Director

Without this group's valuable time the club wouldn't run smoothly and be able to achieve the success that we have on and off the field. Please take your time to appreciate the amount of work that goes into running the club and try and take the time to thank every board member.

The BoM set some goals for the 2017 season at the start of the season. These were:

- 1. Improved communication
- 2. More opportunity for players to play at a higher level
- 3. Culture and Social Events
- 4. Finance

Highlights:

The Numbers

219 – Registered Members

188- Games umpired

22- Umpires

15 - Coaches

13 – Teams

- **9** Team in finals contention at the time of writing
- 1 Minor Premierships secured at the time of writing

On Field

The 2017 season started with us submitting proposals to include a Men's CL2 team for the first time in five years and a second Women's SL1 team. This was to address the recommendations that came out of the 2016 season to give more players the opportunity to play at a higher level. The proposals were then assessed by Hockey ACT and various committees to ensure the sustainability of the teams and how they will fit into the existing competitions. Luckily, we were successful in entering both of these teams, for this reason, 2017 was expected to be a 'rebuilding year'. Fortunately, as we look back on the season we

have exceeded expectations on the field with three out of our seven women's teams (CL2, SL1b, SL4) and five out of our six men's teams (CL2, SL2, SL3, SL4, MW) in finals contention going into the last two rounds.

This year we introduced a selection committee which was utilised from Club Day and the first few weeks of training. This selection committee was useful in ensuring teams were selected fairly but also quickly as we often have issues with the flow on effect of higher grade teams taking longer to select teams. We will always have people that aren't happy with selections and that will be mirrored in any sporting club around the world, I think we have taken some really important steps to improving the selection process. A big thank you to Andrew Sutton and Peter Fogarty for giving up their valuable time to help out the club.

Regardless of your teams results this year I hope everyone had a great season and will be back for a bigger and better 2017!

Off Field

Communication

One of the BoM's main goals this year was to improve communication both from the BoM to members and between all members of the club. As well as the weekly Devils Digest email, social media posts we initiated teams posting their results in the Facebook group and including their Player's Player this is a great way for all club members to know what is happening in teams other than theirs and help with the culture of the club. The BoM has also tried to be more clear in its communication to members so people understand why we do what we do.

Another great tool in improving communication was the development of our new website, a big thank you to Moz (Ian Morrow) for putting the website together. This website is not only visually appealing but now has the facilities for players to see live statistics on games played and goals scored.

Culture and Social Events

We pride ourselves on being a hockey club that not only plays great hockey but is a place where lifelong friendships, relationships, marriages, and increasingly, babies are made! This doesn't just happen; the BoM has aMoz number of ways that we aim to maintain and improve this culture:

- Encouraging members to watch games other than their own, Hockey ACT have again assisted with this with most weeks UCHC teams playing back to back or close to each other.
- Hosting four social functions Lawn Bowls Season Launch, Bar Rally, Wine Tasting and Trivia Night with Pres Night to come on Saturday 23 September, these functions are important ways to get to know your teammates and fellow club mates so make sure you make every effort to attend.
- Finals supporter packs will be again available for purchase through the finals series, watch out for more information in the coming weeks.

Finance

We were again able to keep fees at the same price as last year and continue to offer a \$100 early bird discount, which was well taken up throughout the club. We aim to keep fees as low as possible for members and believe we have the cheapest senior's fees in the ACT. We can do this by ensuring we continue to support our sponsorship deals and ensuring we have multiple ways to fundraise throughout the season.

Our sponsorship deal with The RUC Bowls Club Turner has changed slightly this year with them increasing the monetary sponsorship at the start of the season and offering a rebate for attendance and spend that UCHC members make at the club throughout the season. So please make sure you swipe your card each time you enter the RUC and purchase anything, everything adds up! Please continue to support them throughout the finals series and into summer and make sure you swipe your card to they know you are from UCHC.

We have also been able to raise money for the club through a range of fundraising opportunities including; Bunnings BBQ, Wine Fundraiser, Groovin' The Moo car parking and the People's Choice Credit Union Lottery. A big thank you to everyone who has supported the club through a fundraiser and anyone that could volunteer their time to make sure these fundraisers were successful.

The fundraising efforts from previous years mean we could purchase equipment for the club including new first aid kits for teams, new hockey balls and bibs, alternate playing shirts for when we have two teams in a grade and club polo shirts for coaches as a small gesture of our thank you for their help throughout the season.

Recommendations

The 2018 season looks to be another exciting year we are currently working with ANU on the prospect of entering a combined men's CL1 and CL2 teams. It would mean that the club enters a team in every possible grade both the men's and women's competition. This will give our players more opportunity to play at a higher level and the club more potential to recruit a range of players. More details of this merger will be confirmed in the offseason but I am hopeful that we will have more information to share by the end of the year.

As we have done in previous years we will put together an end of year survey which will go out to all members in the coming weeks to review the 2017 season. Please fill out the survey so we can help to review the season and start to make changes for next year.

I say it every year but if everyone in our club did one thing other than playing each week, whether it be as little as watching another team play, attending a social function or umpiring for our club, or as big as coaching or being on the BoM the club would be better off for it, and I encourage everyone to do so next year.

It would take too long to thank everyone personally, but a huge thank you goes to every player, coach and umpire who has helped to make the club better in 2017!

Lastly a massive thank you to the BoM who give up their time to organise the season. Take your time over the next few weeks to appreciate the amount of work that goes into running the club and thank each of the board members!

Good luck to all teams in finals, hopefully we have a great end to 2017 and an even better 2018!

Jolly Moore President jolanta_28@hotmail.com

Finance Committee Report

Despite my lack of financial experience and preference to avoid dealing with numbers, in my first year as Finance Director I didn't send the club 'broke' and consider that a win.

To follow on from previous year's reports, our key successes and learning's from this year are summarised below.

Successes:

- We were able to slightly increase our RUC sponsorship again this year, including the introduction of RUC bucks to the RUC cards for more equitable distribution to those who received players' player.
- We were able to maintain the \$100 discount at the start of the year, which saw 132 registered players take advantage of the offer.
- Adherence to fee due dates increased this year with over 75 per cent of the club paying fees in full before Round 12 (however, please note full fees are due by Round 13).
- The Bunnings barbecue was a success, and we look forward to hosting more in the future.

Learning's:

- While the fundraiser was not as successful this year as previously, the wine tasting in conjunction with wine sales saw revenue approximately equal to that of last year's. The wine fundraiser will still be run next year, with some ideas to make it even more successful.
- Fee collection after the initial burst slowed dramatically. However, given there are still a number of registered players who have missed the fee due dates, this may see penalties introduced for those who are late on paying fees next year.

I would like to thank the BoM for all their help and their patience as I got accustomed to the position through the year.

Overall, we will finish this year in a similar financial situation to last year.

Jess Edington

Finance Director

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Income & Expenditure Statement

| | | Current (as of | |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|----------|
| 2017 P&L | Budget | 18/08/2017) | Forecast |
| | | | |
| Revenue | | | |
| Playing Fees | 72,217 | 62,773 | 73,000 |
| Doubtful Debt | -3,000 | - | -3,829 |
| Sponsorship | 7,500 | 2,250 | 8,000 |
| Fundraising | 3,500 | 2,488 | 3,500 |
| Functions | 2,850 | 2,497 | 2,850 |
| Presentation night | 5,000 | _ | 5,000 |
| Tresentation riight | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| Total Revenue | 88,067 | 70,009 | 88,521 |
| Expenditure | | | |
| Coaches | 3,000 | _ | -3,000 |
| Subscriptions | 54,500 | -61,500 | -54,500 |
| Training | 15,205 | -12,104 | -15,205 |
| Equipment | 2,000 | -1,885 | -2,000 |
| Uniforms | 1,000 | -1,040 | -1,000 |
| Misc. | 500 | - | -500 |
| Umpiring Payments | 6,915 | - | -5,190 |
| Trophies | 1,000 | - | -1,000 |
| Presentation night | 4,600 | - | -4,600 |
| Total Expenditure | 88,720 | -76,529 | -86,995 |
| Net Profit/(loss) | -13 | -6,520 | 1,526 |

Public Relations Committee Report

This year has been another big year for social and fundraising events. We introduced the new wine tasting event and were also fortunate to secure a Bunnings BBQ. Unfortunately, our wine fundraising event wasn't as successful as previous years, but still ensured we raised some solid funds for the club.

Before getting into the details, I'd like to say a massive thank you to all the members of the Board this year for all the support I received in helping me fulfil my role while pregnant. I'd also like to especially thank Sean Willis, Millie Butt and Anna Gabriel for all the help with planning trivia night and for literally being the feet on the ground that night, along with Jolly, Moz and Tessa. My own feet were only up to the task of organising things from behind the scenes given my baby was due just two days later and ended up arriving the day after trivia.

Sponsorship

We again continued our very successful relationship with our major sponsor, The RUC Turner Bowls Club. The RUC completed major refurbishments early this year, including the functions room, which has improved the atmosphere and layout of the events we have held there. These refurbishments have also lead to a drastic increase in patronage at the RUC and a higher demand for the function room outside our own needs. As a result, we will need to ensure future event dates are set and booked well in advance to ensure we are able to secure the function room for dates and times that don't clash with our teams' games.

One of the changes with our sponsorship arrangement with The RUC this year was the introduction of placing RUC bucks directly on to player's membership cards when they win player's player each week. This has proved to be an improvement on trying to distribute physical RUC buck vouchers, but still requires some fine tuning. The process currently requires the PR, Social and Fundraising Director to collate together the RUC player's players for each round and send these to the RUC Functions manager to be added to RUC cards. However, due to delays in getting cards printed, some people opting out of a RUC card unintentionally when registering, delays in reporting of player's player and having underage players who are ineligible for a RUC card, this process has not been as smooth as initially hoped for.

Distribution of RUC cards has also been an issue this year. More members have opted in for RUC membership this year due to the player's player arrangement. In order to improve this process for next year, RUC cards will not be distributed to coaches or players at trainings or games, but instead will be available for collection from the RUC. This will reduce double and triple handling of cards and ensure cards are accessible to players when they want to start using them.

I'd also like to thank our clubs other sponsors – JT Sports and Sport at UC (formerly UC Life). We have continued to have productive and beneficial relationships with both these sponsors for the 2017 season. Sport at UC has made major changes to their affiliation requirements, which have worked in our favour and allowed us to secure more funding than

previous years. However, we have also been required to provide significantly more documentation and commit to additional requirements around Uni Games and Intervarsity trials and on campus sport events. Sincere thanks go to Ryan Dix and James Watson for running the UCHC sports carnival activities in Semester 1.

In addition to the support of our current sponsors, we have attempted to pursue a sponsorship partnership with Domino's Pizza (Dickson, Florey and UC stores). Domino's Dickson sponsored our Club Day event at the start of the year supplying us with discounted pizzas and garlic bread. We will continue to pursue a more formal partnership with Domino's for the 2018 season.

Events

We have continued to have great success with our social events this year, with attendance increasing at all events compared to last year. Below is an overview of event attendance and the funds raised at each of our events:

| UCHC 2017 Social and Fundraising Overview | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Event | Theme/Dress code | Number of Attendees | Funds Raised |
| Lawn Bowls | - | 35 | - |
| Bar Rally | I wouldn't wear that in public | 65 | \$ 725.00 |
| Wine Tasting | Cocktail | 67 | \$ 467.39 |
| Trivia | - | 92 | \$ 1,304.90 |
| Presentation Night | Hollywood Night | Estimate – 120+ | - |

This year we introduced a new event, Wine Tasting, to compliment the wine fundraiser and give people a chance to sample the wine available for purchase. This was an extremely successful event, with 67 people attending and lots of positive feedback. People enjoyed the opportunity to attend an event where they could dress up and just socialise without too many activities or presentations/speeches. Many thanks go to Bill and Maria Mason for all the support, advice and generosity in getting this event up and running. They donated both their time, resources and wine for tasting to the event.

Trivia this year also saw a change of venue and was held at The Well bar on the UC Campus. We had an outstanding attendance, which resulted in this event being our biggest fundraiser of the year. Sean also introduced a few new games and rounds to our usual trivia schedule, most notable being the 'Pick a Kenny' board and 'The Price is Right' round.

Many thanks to everyone who has attended events this year and promoted our events to people outside the club. Wine Tasting saw a number of attendees who were not affiliated with the club and I hope we can expand on this next year. Efforts to link up with Uni Juniors is another avenue we can explore next season, something we started this year with promoting the wine tasting event and wine fundraiser via their e-newsletter. Our social

events are one of the defining features of our club and are a massive draw card for new players, especially players who are new to Canberra.

Fundraising

This season we engaged in three major fundraising activities, the biggest being a Bunnings BBQ. Funds raised through each of these activities are outlined below:

| Activity | Funds Raised |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Bunnings BBQ | \$ 1,115.22 |
| Super Saturday BBQ | \$ 222.80 |
| Wine Fundraiser | \$ 575.36 |
| Groovin the Moo Car Parking | \$1,295.55 |
| TOTAL FUNDS RAISED | \$3,208.93 |

Securing a Bunnings BBQ is quite a difficult process. Sausage sizzle allocations are randomly drawn and allocated after making an initial request to Bunnings to hold a BBQ. While we have placed requests with a number of Bunnings stores since our last Bunnings BBQ at the start of 2015, we have only this year been successful in securing an allocation. We will continue to submit these requests and hope that we can secure another place soon. However, we are also looking to explore other BBQ fundraising opportunities, such as at the Dickson shops. I'd like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to this year's Bunnings BBQ. We had quite a number of volunteers, which made everything run very smoothly on the day, despite the freezing conditions we had to endure (-7° at 7:30am). We sold 79kgs of sausages on the day and raised over \$1000.

We again held our wine fundraiser this year through the months of May and June. This was much earlier than in the previous two years, as we wanted the fundraiser to tie in with the Wine Tasting event. While we still managed to raise significant funds through this activity, funds raised this year compared to previous years was decreased. Therefore any feedback members have in regards to the wine fundraiser are greatly appreciated so that we can tailor this fundraising activity for next season.

Communication

We have endeavoured to improve communications both externally and internally this year, in an effort to attract new players and communicate more clearly with club members. The start of the season saw the launch of our updated website, which is more mobile friendly and easier to navigate. This update was all thanks to the tireless, behind the scenes efforts of Ian Morrow. One of the many significant additions that Moz has made to the new website is the inclusion of the Player Stats page.

Further improvements on communication have been coaches reporting game results, goal scorers and player's player recipients via the club's Facebook group. These posts are a great way for members to find out how other teams are tracking through the season and for

connecting with club supporters. Weekly results have also been communicated via the website's blog and the Devil's Digest.

The Board has also gone to efforts to communicate about activities they are undertaking throughout the season via the Facebook group. These have included posts about fees, grading and selection processes, merchandise availability, participation in NAIDOC and Chris McKinnon campaigns and fundraising activities.

Next year, the role of PR, Social and Fundraising Director will be split into two separate positions – Events & PR and Sponsorship & Fundraising. I believe this will allow the club to have a clearer focus on each of these important activities and hopefully expand both our events calendar and sponsorship and fundraising opportunities.

Many thanks again to a fantastic season and good luck to everyone vying for a place in finals. I can't wait to celebrate all the successes of the season at Presentation Night on the 23rd September.

Alisha Nolan

PR, Social & Fundraising Director

alisha.nolan@gmail.com

Teams and Coaching Committee Report

2017 Coaches: Team Coaches/Managers and Assistant Coaches

| Women's | Men's |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CL1 James Borrett | CL2 Stirling Sharpe |
| CL2 James Watson & Jackson Leckie | SL1 Scott Moore |
| SL1a Morgan Williams | SL2 Chantelle Blackwell |
| SL1b Mat Evans | SL3 Jessica Edington & Bianca Letki |
| SL2 Kenny Duren | SL4 Brett Loiterton & Lincoln Green |
| SL3 Adam Coughlan | Midweek Ben O'Sullivan |
| SL4 Bram de Laat & Matt Luff | |

I'd like to start by thanking all of our excellent coaches. Without all of the effort and time that you put in, we wouldn't be able to function as a club and for that we are extremely thankful.

This year saw a lot of changes to the coaching line up with some old coaches returning after a year's break and some new faces coming on board too. We had our CL2 men's team come back after a number of years of not having one and under the direction of Stirling have performed very well. I'd also like to thank Scott Moore (Skip) for taking on the role of organising the SL1 team this year. After having a coach lined up for them who had to pull out do to family caring duties Skip did a good job of getting the team organised and on the pitch week in week out. We also introduced a second team in at the SL1 grade in the women's comp and Mat stepped up to coach there. This seems to have been successful and we hope to continue that in the coming years. Jim taking over the CL1 women's coaching role and they have been getting better and better throughout the season. We have quite a young squad CL squad in the women's competition and I think I speak for everyone in saying that we hope they all continue to return and take out a few premierships in the coming years.

To all the old faces that have now been around the club for a number of years and have consistently coached team towards the finals a big thanks and hope that you will consider returning next year. I personally understand the amount of time and effort that you put into the training sessions and it is appreciated.

The coaching staff have worked well together this season with the number of players being given the opportunity to play up grades to test their skill this season being one of the highest in recent memory. It's beneficial to both players and the club having these opportunities given and I believe the club is getting stronger and stronger because of this. Our club is building our reputation and we are starting attract high quality players because of this. Again that wouldn't be the case if it weren't for the coaching staff and how they work together as a team.

Club Day – previously grading day

Following on from last year's success, a registration and club day was again run at the start of the season. We had a very successful turnout again this year, with a lot of new players attending who had found out about the day via the UC Market Day stall.

This year we introduced a selection panel consisting of Andrew Sutton and Peter Fogarty that seemed to work quite well for the first time it has been done. Feedback was positive and we were seen as being more transparent than in previous years. Coaches who worked closely with the selection panel were able to get an outcome that was good for the club and I think it is reflected in how well we performed as a club this year. It is something that should be continued to be considered and tweaked in the future.

Training Times

Training was held on a Tuesday and Thursday night this year which wasn't ideal. This was meant to change after the replacement of Kjar. After consistent communication with HACT it was determine that this wasn't going to change as the Tuggeranong club didn't want to move there training from Lyneham as had been organised pre-season. We will be working with HACT to try and get everyone training on the one night in 2018.

| Tuesday 8 – 9pm | Women's SL4, SL3, SL2; Men's CL2 & SL1 |
|------------------|---|
| Thursday 6 - 8pm | Women's CL1, CL2, SL1(1), SL1(2); Men's SL2 & SL3 |

It would be more beneficial for players and coaches to have everyone train on the one night. It allows for better communication between coaches that want to pull players up from lower grades and also give coaches the opportunity to see players more often.

Teams and Finals Opportunities

At the time of writing this we have a number of teams who have an opportunity to play finals. In the men's competition we have CL2 (possible) SL2, SL3 and SL4. With the introduction of CL2 this year it did leave SL1 quite depleted this season which we will need to build on in 2018. In saying that they still did quite well and we still have a strong club in

the men's competition. We continue to be able to recruit quite well and now that we have a CL team it will become easier to attract skilled men to the club.

With the changes to coaches in the women's side of the competition it's great to see us being as successful as we are. Both the CL grades are doing better than last season with CL2 making the finals. There continues to be new faces in the CL squad which is great to see and we are continuing to build on last year's success. We continue to be able to recruit strong players in the CL squad and this has seen us be able to successfully run two SL1 teams and one in with an extremely good chance of making the finals.

As mentioned CL2 women will make the finals and have been playing some strong hockey this season. SL1(2) are also in a very strong position and should make the finals the top 5 spots still in contention with them currently in second however the ladder is very congested at the top. I think special mention also needs to go to the SL3 women who have had 11 draws to this point of the season. I think it is the most I have ever seen from one team in a season and they have had some very strong performances including drawing with the 3 top teams. If only they could have converted some of these to wins they could have been in contention for a finals birth.

Midweek

Midweek was also depleted due to the introduction of the CL2 men's team as those players were now ineligible to play midweek hockey. They will still make the finals currently sitting fourth on the ladder however they have had some strong wins during the season. Ben has done a great job organising this team throughout the year. It's great to see that we continue to support a midweek team who are self-sufficient and represent our club well during the week.

Finally good luck to all teams who are in contention for the finals it's great to see as a club we continue to be so strong. Big thanks to all the coaches and we hope to see most if not all of you again next season.

Lincoln Green

Teams and Coaching Director

Lincolngreen19@gmail.com

Umpiring Committee Report

This being my first year as Umpiring Coordinator, I would like to thank everyone who helped me out, special thanks to Madden for his guidance in the position, Mat Evans for teaching me how to umpire and all the umpires who devoted their time each week; the competition would not run without you.

This year saw a rise in numbers for club umpires from 19 last year to 22 this year, with 188 total games being officiated (including five commitments that we did for other clubs not turning up).

This year I followed Madden's system of week on week off rostering, and the addition of three new umpires to the roster meant that it would take some pressure off the regular umpires. Even though there were some game clashes, injuries and absences, which meant some were doing more than one game each week, we have managed to pull through without much trouble.

This year saw the implementation of a new fee structure for umpiring, with accredited umpires receiving \$30 per game and unaccredited umpires receiving \$25. This saw one umpire gain accreditation this year, with the hopes of having more gain their accreditations next year.

This year also saw two umpires progress to umpiring Capital League, Sean Willis and Caitlin Waddell, a big well done to you both.

Finally I would just like to thank every one of our excellent umpires, who dedicated their time to the club this year. Thank you so much for all your hard work and support throughout the season, and most importantly thank you for making my job a whole lot easier.

Ashlee Malcolm

2017 Umpiring Coordinator