



WWCHA February 2024 General Meeting Minutes

Date: 26th February 2024

Time: 7:33pm

Location: Club Rooms, Jubilee Park

Chaired by: Liz Cronin

Board Membership:

President: Liz Cronin

Secretary: Jenna Rowe

Competitions Manager: Amy Smart

Officiating Officer: Zac Tinning

Representative Manager: Carla Bailey

Facilities Manager: Ken Larkin

Treasurer: Karen Boyd

Development: Lauren Gailey

Events : Lara Laurent

Club Membership with Voting Privileges: Cavaliers, CSU Hockey Ducks, Harlequins, Lake Albert, Rosellas, Royals

Present (A-Z):

Board Members: Liz Cronin, Jenna Rowe, Ken Larkin, Zac Tinning, Lara Laurent.

Club representatives:

Club	Representative	Role
Cavaliers	Alicia Rose	President
CSU	Aaron Basei	Men's Coordinator
Harlequins		
Lake Albert	Luke Geaghan	President
Rosellas	Sharyn Wellham	Vice President
Royals	Guy Harris	Vice President
Scorchers		

Apologies: Amy Smart (Competitions) Carla Bailey, Karen Boyd, Lauren Gailey, Sharron Smith.

Absent:

Members Present :

Luke Geagan	Lake Albert President
Alicia Rose	Cavaliers President
Callum Clayton	Royals
Gay Harris	Royals
Terry-Ann McBeath	Rosellas
Sharryn Wellham	Rosellas
Aaron Basai	CSU Ducks
Charmine Gay	Rosellas

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to begin by acknowledging the Wiradjuri people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Annual General Meeting **22 January 2024** (located on WWCHA website)

Accepted: Luke Geaghan

Seconded: Alicia Rose

Comment: Charmain Gay raised that we need to try and locate the minutes from 2023 and if they cant be located we will close the matter at the next general meeting.

Actions arising from previous minutes

Actions arising from previous meeting minutes	Person Responsible	Timeframe	Progress	Update
Missing Minutes from Last Year	Jenna/Liz	Next GM		

Correspondence In

Correspondence	Club/Person	Format	Date	Action
Adam Boyd resigned as Lake Albert President.	Ben Spiers	Email	26/2/2024	Luke Geaghan is now the Lake Alert President and Logan Willford is now the Vice President.

Sharni Barton from Hockey NSW is trying to get more access into schools visiting highschool and primary schools to get Hockey into the forefront of the schools. NSW Hockey Association is going to be giving assistance moving forward, she wants to run coaching courses umpiring etc coming soon. She will help oversee sporting school gala days etc feel free to message for help to get in the door to get it up and running in any schools. Sharni is trying to get on the PSSA calendar to get into schools. Sharni is looking for sporting coaches for schools. She has the ability to accredit coaches. We will soon be putting out an expression of interest out for coaches for level 1 coaching courses. Register for this course through Hockey NSW because the cost is \$75 instead of \$110 doing it through hockey ed.

sharni.b@hockeynsw.com.au is her email and her number for contact is 0408407849.

Competitions Update - Amy Smart

- The Competitions Panel Meeting was held on the 8th February 2024 at the Jubilee Park Club Rooms. All clubs were in attendance except Cavaliers. Amy and Janet from Cavaliers had a separate discussion on the 13th February.
 - Full Minutes of the meeting are located [here](#).
 - It was decided that the options that have been raised for consideration in terms of how the teams are selected were not sustainable with our current numbers. An on-going theme throughout the meeting is that we need to start advertising and bringing in more players.
 - Too difficult to grade everyone ourselves. However, we can use Cobweb Cup as a tool for testing out the teams that clubs are intending on submitting. Clubs and competition panel members to keep an eye out on players to see if there are any that should be reconsidered for different divisions. Request clubs submit team lists by the **12th April 2024**. Competitions Panel to meet every 5 weeks to review teams, points, and whether any players need to be moved. If any members are concerned about the quality of a player in a division, they can communicate this with their club Competitions Panel Member and/or Amy. To be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
 - People were initially worried about the late start date, but after reviewing the [calendar](#) it is clear that the start date of the **27th April** makes a mostly non-interrupted season. The increased hockey options over summer supplement this. Calendar updates and discussion points:
 - Indoor should be run during Term 3 and 4
 - The Indoor state championships run over that period of time, giving people plenty more opportunity to train
 - Also means that the Indoor competition isn't interrupted over xmas/new year, and people don't need to re-register.
 - Womens' competition round that occurs on the same weekend as Women's Masters should be moved to the Sunday before or after.
 - Under 14s Girls also mean another Sunday round
 - **Division 1 Women**
 - Initial feedback is that CSU Hockey Ducks, Lake Albert and Rosellas will not have enough division 1 quality players to submit teams. If this is the case, then the Division 1 Womens' will fold, Division 2 will become Division 1, Division 3 will become Division 2, and there will be no Division 3. Women Division 1 would move to Saturdays.
 - If more than 4 teams in Womens Divisions, the current structure will not work. Amy to create a draft draw for a few options.
 - We need to increase advertising and start funnelling Division 1 Quality players to these three clubs if we want to maintain our division 1 competition.
 - Invitation to be sent to Albury, Griffith and Tumut to see if they have any high-level players that are interested in supplementing teams, or submitted their own team.
 - **Division 1 Men**
 - Struggling with the physical and mental pressures of playing in both Wagga and the Scorchers competition in Canberra. Further comments regarding increasing advertising to bring in more Division 1 Men to support the local teams.
 - **Division 3 Men**

- Most clubs feel like they could get the numbers together for Div 3 Men, especially if we promote it as much as possible. Need to start advertising asap.
- If we are unable to pull together 4 full division 3 mens teams, discussion was positive for the option to change it to a mixed social timeslot.
 - If this happened, Div 3 Men would be social only, but the players in Division 3 would only be allowed to play in Division 1 3 times (same rules that already exist).
 - Only Division 2/3 Women can play in the team, not Division 1 Women.
 - Women must be named in the Mens teams.
 - A maximum of 4 women on the field at any time. Women not required to be on the field. Men will take the priority.
- Deferrals
 - Amy has added some questions to the member registration about whether the player is a university student, their requirements to vacate during the holidays, whether they have placements, etc., to see which teams will be impacted. We will attempt to use this to preempt deferrals and move the games to non-uni holidays. Applies to all teams, not just CSU Hockey Ducks.
- Goalkeeper pools
 - Small discussion regarding Goalkeepers. Low numbers, we need to encourage goal keepers as much as possible. Other associations have started bringing in Goalkeeper Pools. A goalkeeper will still register with their nominated Club but will have the options to fill for other clubs if they are needed.
 - Goalkeepers are not required to play for any other team or club if they do not wish to.
 - Rules regarding playing in other divisions will apply the same way.

President Update - Liz Cronin

- Liz handed out a Sponsorship levels and the Sponsorship prospectus for all committee members to look through and give any feedback they see necessary, will add a pdf of these two things to the email.
- HNSW Community Award Nominations.

Secretary Update - Jenna Rowe

- Jenna just updated that it was great to see all the Nominations coming into Wagga Hockey for all the events we have coming up.
- Discussion was had about last year's minutes. I will be trying to source them and if unable we will close the matter at the next meeting.

Officiating Officer Update - Zac Tinning

- The 2024 season will see the Officiating Committee Name Umpires for all grades of the Wagga Hockey including: Division 1 Men & Women, Division 2 Men & Women, Division 3 Women and Hopefully Division 3 Men, as well as the U18s, U16s and U14s junior competitions.
- The officiating committee has decided to move forward with this Umpiring structure as it will enable us to:
 - - Provide appropriately skilled umpires for all matches.
 - - Purposely select umpires for games to better develop junior and learning umpires.
 - - Provide a pathway for new umpires to follow/aspire to

- - schedule umpire coaching for developing umpires.
- - ensure that umpires are able to enjoy umpiring matches and are not becoming 'burnt out' over the course of the season.
- - Manage senior umpire workload
- To proceed forward with this restructure, the officiating committee will need to create an appropriate 'pool' of local umpires, in order to have an appropriate number of umpires the officiating committee will need:
 - - Clubs provide per team registered, one umpire who already has some experience.
 - - Clubs to also provide 1 or multiple names of individuals who are either learning umpires/ or wishing to begin umpiring.
 - - an appropriate club contact for correspondence, outreach and introductions.
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- The Officiating committee will, prior to the season, rank the umpires provided in this 'pool' by competency level for each division/grade in the winter competition.
- Should the 'pool' of umpires reach an appropriate number, the officiating committee will name umpires in regards to competency rank for each match in all divisions of the winter competition.
- The plan would be to name umpires for each round on the Saturday evening/Sunday Morning prior to the start of the next round for division 2 and 3. For division 1 the umpires would be named 2 weeks in advance where applicable.
- The junior competitions are our most crucial for development and with 3 grades of varying skill levels it is important that clubs try to encourage as many members as possible to give umpiring a go. The officiating committee will ensure that at least 1 umpire coach is always available for every round of the junior competition.
- Throughout the season, the officiating committee will select umpires for state championships to help further develop individuals and improve the standard of Wagga Hockey umpiring. These individuals will be selected by the officiating committee alone as this is different to past years.
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Representative Manager Update - Carla Bailey

- Representative season preparation is well underway, you can find all the details for each of the NSW State Championships on the Wagga Hockey Website in the representative tab.

The following Coach and Manager appointments have been endorsed by the Board, some positions are still being finalised, we wish the teams well for their upcoming championships.

Age Group	Coach	Manager
Under 14 Boys	Jarrold Thorne	Lauren Gailey
Under 14 Girls	Alexis Bailey	TBC
Under 16 Boys	Nathan Szymanski	Mel Chyb
Under 16 Girls	Alicia Rose	TBC
Under 18 Boys	TBC	TBC
Under 18 Girls	Carla Bailey	Karen Boyd
Open Men	Nao Gupte	Liz Cronin
Open Women	TBC	TBC
Mens Masters 40s	Sam Arnold	Kirstin O'Rourke

- Player nominations are now open for all age groups and close on 7th March. Nomination form is located in the events tab on the website, it is great to see some nominations coming in already!

After nominations close trials will be arranged by the relevant coaches, turf bookings are to be made directly through Ken.

Scorchers Update

Board endorsed the following:

- No fees for home games or training, however lighting costs will be charged.
- Scorchers are planning to run a junior development session this season
- Working with Hockey ACT to run Umpire development sessions, more information to come.
- Date for Scorchers trials to be confirmed, will be advertised on Facebook

Facilities Manager - Ken Larkin

Grandstands

- Contractor has assessed and with some minor strengthening we can safely achieve another 2 -3years out of them.
- We will be enclosing the bottom tier to reduce leaves gathering under the grandstands.
- Work to be completed during late March early April.

Storm Water Drains at the northern end of the fields

- Council have confirmed the problem has been fixed and from their perspective all is operating as normal We will monitor.

Lights

- Council have confirmed there are no current issues with the lights and we are good to go.
- Have arranged for Phil Stone and Callum Atwell to have light codes for the competition proper. This means that we will have 3 people who are able to turn lights off and on. Mobile No's to be advised in due course.

Footpath between the 2 fields.

- Have missed out on the grant.
- Contractor currently assessing different options for us which will see the cost reduced.
- Have written to the council for assistance. Response was not a total no but we will be meeting (Liz and Ken) with them after the State Touch Cup to look at options.
- Opportunity to link with council grants

Field Maintenance

- Quotes for deep cleaning of the fields have been received. \$3,600 for both fields- recommend to accept. **Vote required to accept quotes and schedule works.**
- **Ken moved the Motion, Sharyn Wellham Seconded the Motion, everyone present Passed the motion.**
- Re-sanding Noonan field has come in at \$42K. They say we need 120t of sand.

- Have sought a 2nd opinion from Polytan and they recently completed depth testing of the field and they believe there is an adequate amount of sand on the surface.
- The downside is that the surface requires some seam repairs to ensure we can extend the life of the field. Quote being obtained.
- The Polytan technician believes we can only get another 3 years out of the surface. We will need to rethink our strategy for replacement.
- Quote for re-fixing the little field has come in at \$22K. The Board has agreed that it is not one of our priorities at the moment.

Alarms

- Will be changing the alarm code.
- I have arranged for additional sensors to be put into the storage shed. There seems to be problems isolating, Touch are following up with council at this stage not sure of the outcome, although was able to arm at the weekend.

Missing Equipment/Equipment

- Following the FB post, no contact has been made with Wagga Hockey re missing vacuum cleaner and Bay Marie. (we are reaching out to the union club about the vacuum to see if they have it.)
- New freezer installed in pump shed for ice. Thanks guy for fitting a new double power point.

Eftpos

- Square setup complete.
- Next step is to load up menus once Kristy has finalised. Will start with the menu for the Academy games .
- Hand held terminal worked very well during the State Trials weekend. Approx \$1800 in takings.

Working Bee

- Working bee very successful, fields look great. Thank you to everyone who came along to help.
- Will look to schedule a small one prior to Academy Games.

Paul Field - Water Controller

- Working well.
- One watering program is loaded and seems to be adequate.
- Can water separate stations-if required
- Aim is to keep the control box locked-Slowly Rolling out access.

Goal Nets

- New nets for the Noonan field goals have arrived and will be installed as soon as we get a chance to undertake.

Training Bookings

- Can we please use the 'Booking option' on the Webpage.
- I will approve the booking from the back end.
- Link sent to all Clubs
- I have uploaded both the Cavs and Rosella's/Harlequins.
- Will require a start date for lights.
- Scorchers were discussed and the decision was reached to request a representative from the Scorchers to attend the next general meeting and provide the association with an update.

Events Manager - Lara Laurent

- SSA Dates are 13/14/15th April.
- Proposed we do a basic first aid class to help people have more of an idea of concussion procedures and basic first aid with Nao.

Treasurer Update - Karen Boyd

- Treasurer wasn't present to give an update.

Development Manager - Lauren Gailey

- COD - juniors have been polishing their skills as part of the Centre of Development program. Through this, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to train with the ACT and VIC u21 teams during their trial weekend. Last weekend saw us all gather at Griffith in the sweltering heat, with RPC Sharni Barton attending assessing our coaches for their badging. All roads lead to Newcastle next weekend for the Regional Challenge, and a chance to catch up with our hockey buddies from around the state and to put all we've learnt into practice.
- Come try day - following delays in getting marketing material out to schools in the area, it was felt it best to postpone this for a week or two (For discussion here if it hasn't previously been covered). It is super important that this be well attended by clubs, as we want to link families up with clubs to make sure the whole family is included. The spreadsheet of all schools within 1 hours drive of Wagga is ready with email addresses ready to send info to be in newsletters.
- Most of the representative coaches and managers have been named, and the next step is to receive nominations from players. This nomination form is out presently. Some feedback has been provided regarding the wording, and just to clarify that it is a nomination for selection, not automatic selection.

- Our next step in preparation towards the junior season is appointment of coaches for the junior teams. Please consider how each club will be able to assist. I would hope that each club has a representative within the coaching pool on a Friday night.
- We have been looking at dividers for our turf, to separate the two half fields. There are a few leads we are following up in this to make sure we get something that will give bounce back as appropriate.

New Business

Luke Geaghan is the new Lake Albert is the president and Logan Wilford is the Vice President.

There is a Fundraiser for Katie Howard's daughter coming soon we will update with more information as it comes. Support for this event would be great.

Meeting closed: 9:11 pm

Next Meeting:

Liz Cronin (President/ Chairperson)

Jenna Rowe (Secretary / Minute Taker)