

## GENERAL MEETING 23 April 2018

# Minutes

**Date:** Monday 29 August 2018

**Time:** 7.30pm-9.00pm

**Location:** WWCHA Club Rooms, Jubilee Park

**Chaired by:** Ken Larkin (President)

### 1 Attendees:

**Board:** Carla Bailey (Secretary), Kate Wickson (Development) Brittany O'Donnell (Events), Sam Arnold (Competitions),

**Voting Members:** Aaron Crump (LAHC), Richard Engelbrecht (Royals), Thomas Belling (CSU), Ben Worldon (Mustangs), Sharyn Wellham (Rosellas)

**Members:** Pat O'Donnell (RCC), Bernie Howard (CSU)

### 2 Apologies:

Phil Stone (facilities), Karen Boyd (Treasurer), Sharon Smith (Representative), Cameron Tokley (Officiating).

### 3 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes for meeting held August were not available for the meeting.

Confirmed:

Seconded:

### 4 Actions Arising

Nil

### 5 Correspondence In

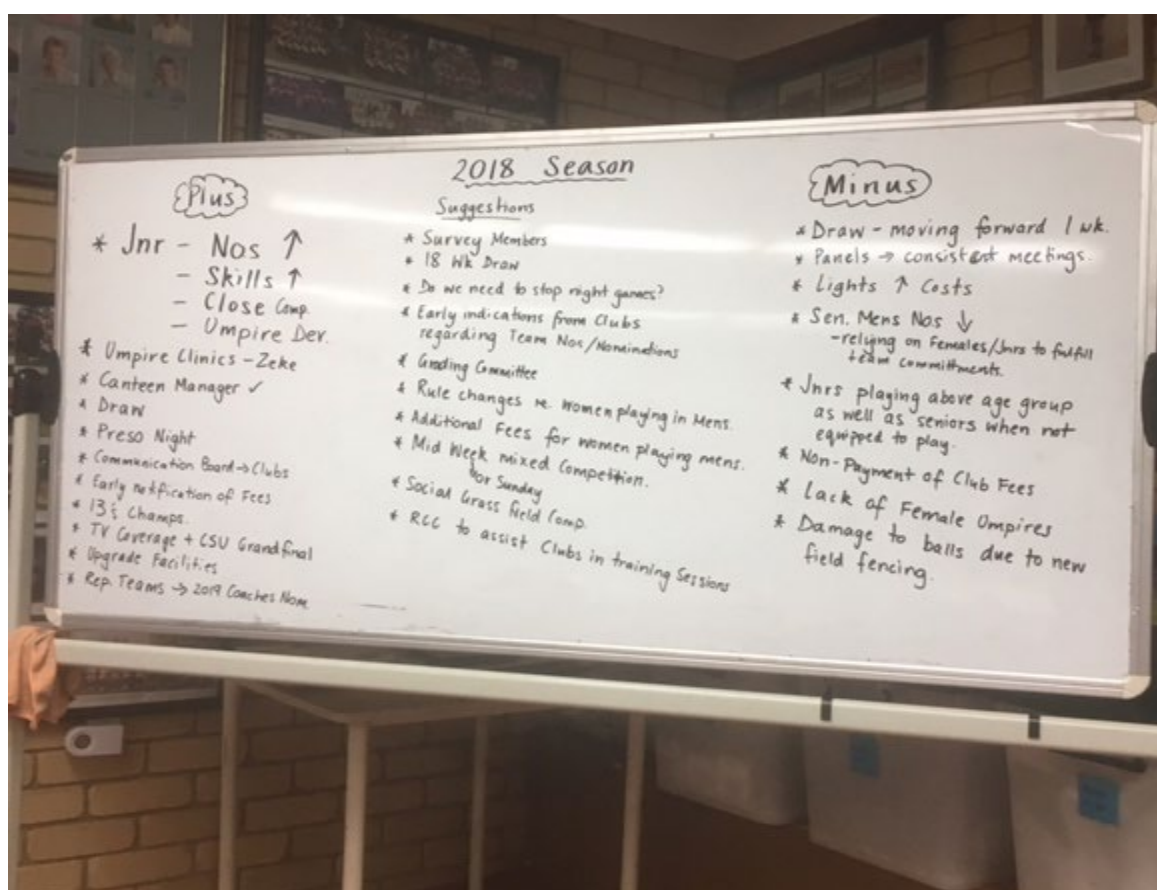
Nil

### 6 New Business

#### 6.1 2018 Season Review

- Thank you to the Board for their work whilst I was away on holidays.
- The grand final series was successful.
- Thanks to CSU for their video footage of the finals series. CSU have indicated they would like to come back again next season. WWCHA would welcome CSU back, the ability to watch the finals via live stream was a great experience and allowed friends and family to watch our great game.
- We have been benchmarking with other associations about their facilities and how they run their competitions/associations to look for new ideas and keep our association growing.

- There was discussion at the meeting around what worked well, what could be improved and suggestions for the 2019 season. Feedback captured below. WWCHA will put out a survey seeking further feedback.
- Some specific items to consider for 2019:
  - There is a significant increase in the light costs for 2019, as it has been identified that we were being under charged by WWCC.
  - Do we need to consider playing the comp over 2 days rather than on 1 day?
  - The number of registered senior players has continued to decline, particularly in the Men's comp. This season there were a number of women playing in the men's competition?
  - Should the Men's go to a two division competition?
  - If women are playing in the men's comp they will be required to pay the WWCHA fee for both the women's and men's competition.
  - Should women be allowed to play in the men's competition?
  - A grading committee should be considered to review players eligibility for the division they have been nominated.



### Feedback provided by Cavaliers Hockey Club

In reply to your recent email Cavaliers have reflected on the areas of 1) What went well and 2) What areas need improvement. Please find below out response.

#### 1) What went well:

We believe that the 2018 Wagga Hockey season was successfully ran with junior development days that were provided and positive role modelling from senior and older junior players. This was evident as players gave up their valuable time to give

back to the association by helping the juniors with training, playing and coaching and umpiring and coaching representative teams. The developmental training days provided opportunities to all children that encouraged them to be further educated in basic skills and knowledge about hockey and provided opportunities to take talented young people on to elite levels of performance and competition. A great thing about Wagga association supporting junior hockey is that it allows children the chance to experience the emotional highs and lows in a safe, appropriate, supportive and structured environment. Hockey gives the children the chance to learn about being part of a team, winning well, bouncing back from a loss and coping with unpleasant experiences like injury. We would like to continue to support these events, as we believe that it will encourage continued participation in the older grades so that Wagga can maintain a strong competition in hockey.

## **2) Areas that need improvement:**

We believe that we need to improve when the draw is released so that more players are provided with the opportunity to be able to play. This is particularly difficult when it is released late to accommodate for shift working players. We often hear feedback that this impacts on a player returning for another season due to the amount of fees and their inability to play.

The 8.00pm timeslot is far too late for players with young families who are not getting home in some cases until 9.30pm, sometimes 10.00pm. We believe that this could be easily moved forward to a 7.00pm timeslot.

The canteen menu needs to be addressed to offer a healthier choice to players and spectators. This will in turn promote a healthier lifestyle for the Hockey association. This is in line with other sporting clubs such as Wagga Wagga touch football.

Umpires need to be named for each game to alleviate the problem of not providing an umpire for a designated grade.

The sand turf which is in great need of repair should be upgraded to water based turf which we believe is well within budget of the money that is currently available.

Ice and general first aid equipment should be available at all games for player injuries as they happen.

**Smoking** behind the turf near the car park needs to be stopped. The smoking has been causing players with asthma to react especially the goal keepers who are standing adjacent to the smokers for a lengthy period. A designated smoking area well away from the rear of the keeper's goal area needs to be established. We need to remember that children sometimes aged at only 12 to 14 are playing these adult games and smoking is prohibited at a child's sport.

A code of conduct letter needs to be provided to each player prior to the season commencement outlining what is expected in relation to fair and honest play. There have been incidents of players abusing umpires and other players on the field even threatening other players. It is believed that if a code of conduct was issued and required to be signed and returned would allow for suitable punishment if breached.

Recognition should be given to the best defenders at the end of the year. Defensive lines in hockey including the Goalkeeper area forever being overlooked and this

needs to be addressed. Goalkeeper of the year and defender of the year should be added to the schedule and could easily be voted on by the umpires, a simple 1 point for the best keeper and 1 point for the best defender for the game only be required. At the end of the season the defender and keeper for each division would be awarded the trophy. Perhaps it could be in honour of a past player who has since passed.

Umpires for semi-finals should not be playing for the team that has made it into the grand final. We believe that this causes undue bias towards the team that they believe will be the weakest opposition in the grand final whether it is actual or perceived by the general spectator group.

## **6.2 Board 2019 critical Discussion**

- At this stage we have 1 nomination for Representative and 1 nomination for Development. Nominations Close on 10 November 2018.
- If there are no further nominations the board will not be able to run next season and therefore there will not be a senior hockey competition.

## **6.3 AGM 2019**

- The AGM will be held on Monday 26 November at 7.30pm. A committee meeting will follow straight after the AGM.

## **6.4 Upcoming events**

- U15 Girls Field State Championships will be hosted by Wagga 21-23 June 2019.
- Wagga will also host the 2020 Women's Half State Masters Championships. A committee is being formed across Wagga, Griffith and Tumut to coordinate the championships.
- The first meeting will be held 24 November 2018 at 11.00am in the Jubilee Park Clubrooms. All Masters Women are welcome and encouraged to attend and be part of the organising committee.

## **7 Board Reports**

### **President**

- Holes in the fences will be repaired by WWCC in the coming weeks.
- The grant application for a storage shed in collaboration with Wagga Touch has been approved. Designs for the shed are being prepared and WWCHA will be seeking quotations to complete the works. WWCHA contribution will be approx. \$10K. The works are expected to be completed prior to the commencement of the 2019 season.
- WWCHA have applied for a grant to purchase a portable PA system
- WWCHA have submitted a grant through the Australian Sports Commission for electronic scoreboards. The cost for this project is approximately \$27K.

### **Competitions**

- Score cards need to be completed correctly and must be legible.

### **RCCC**

- There is an increase in the number of participants for COD this year with a total of 50 children registering. Griffith have 11 participants and Wagga have 37.

- There will be a Macquarie sports day held in Griffith and Leeton in partnership with Steggles. .
- There were 10 schools who had a Hockey coaching clinic in Term 3.

### **Club Reports**

Cavaliers – Nil

CSU - Nil

Harlequins - Nil

LAHC - Nil

Mustangs - Nil

Rosellas –

2018 saw our Club celebrate 75 years of Women's Hockey in Wagga Wagga, we had a Diamond Jubilee Dinner in April with a number of past players and present club members having an enjoyable night looking at photos and memorabilia from past years. We hope to continue having reunions to ensure the History of our club is maintained in future years. we are now looking at 80years as the next milestone.

At the start of the season the club was short in player numbers and had to get permission from Wagga Hockey, to have less nominated players in Division 1 to maintain a team in this Division. Over the course of the season we were able to give a lot of our young players a taste of top Division Hockey and what they now aspire to play. By the end of the season we had adequate numbers of players with the greater majority being social learners and returning to hockey after many years not playing. I must congratulate the Rosellas Division 3 players who were supportive of one of their team mates helping her in every way both on and off the field with her desire to play hockey. Also, the other teams of that division who were encouraging too. We Have a great mix of senior players and younger juniors who we wish to encourage to stay with the game we love

We finished the year in Division 1 losing the Minor Semi-final, Division 2 and 3 were eliminated in the Preliminary Final, it was the first time in many years we were without a team in the Grand Finals so hopefully 2019 is a better year for the Red and White of Rosellas,

We changed our AGM to adhere to Wagga Hockey request, for nominated persons to Board Panels for this season. This came at a financial cost to our club and the irony is that those nominated were not utilized in most cases. We are trying to get people involved in the running of the club and aware of the running of the Board of Wagga Hockey. Hopefully in 2019 whomever we nominate will be utilized.

Looking forward to another season of Hockey in 2019

Royals – Nil

### **Other Items**

#### **9.0 Urgent Business**

Nil

## **10 Next Meeting**

Monday 26 November 2018

WWCHA Club Rooms, Jubilee Park.

## **11 Close of Meeting**

The meeting concluded at 8.41pm.