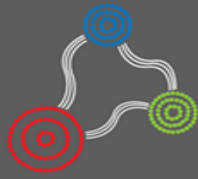


WWCHA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Monday 9 December 2019



Date: Monday 9 December, 2019
Time: 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Location Jubilee Park Club Rooms
Chaired by: Emily Paul
Board Membership: Ken Larkin (President), Emily Paul (Secretary), Karen Boyd (Treasurer), Melinda Chyb (Competitions), Thomas Belling (Development), Sam Arnold (Officiating), Brittany O'Donnell (Representative), Vacant (Facilities), Vacant (Events).
Club Membership with Voting Privileges: Cavaliers, CSU, Harlequins, Lake Albert, Rosellas, Royals, Mustangs

Minutes

Present: Aaron Crump, Emma Lynch, Craig Knowles, Alicia Rose, Amy Smart, Phil Stone, Dennis Girling, Sharyn Wellham, Patrick O'Donnell, Pranibhay Nand Sharon Smith, Kate Wickson

Apologies: Ken Larkin, Scott Curtis

A maximum of three (3) patrons are to be elected at the annual general meeting.

Traditionally: Mayor of Wagga Wagga, State Member for Wagga Wagga, Federal Member for Riverina.

The following three patrons have been elected. Correspondence to be sent to these individuals by Secretary:

Councillor Greg Conkey, Joe McGirr, MP, Michael McCormack, MP

1.0 Board Reports

PREVIOUS MINUTES – Approved by: Karen Boyd Seconded by: Aaron Crump

1.1 President Report – Ken Larkin

Firstly I would like to say thank you for allowing me to be your President for the last 4 years. I have enjoyed the role very much and your support during the last 4 years has been something I have appreciated.

Overall the 2019 season has been a very successful one.

Congratulations to all the 2019 major and minor premiers. Grand final day was a great day and the hockey played across all grades was fantastic – a great day which showcased Wagga Hockey to the broader Wagga community

This year from a representative level WWCHA won 2 divisions, the Under 13 boys and Open Men. Congratulations to both teams and coaches Craig Knowles (U13) and Brendan Watson (Open Men).

All of our other representative teams represented WWCHA with pride and distinction.

This year we hosted the Hockey NSW Under 15 Girls Championships. The tournament was a great success, and special guests Michael McCormack (Deputy Prime Minister) and Greg Conkey (Mayor, Wagga) were very impressed by our facilities and loved the opportunity to be part of the weekend.

We also had in attendance David Thompson (CEO Hockey NSW), who was also suitably impressed by our facilities and our volunteers who worked tirelessly over weekend. Thank you to everyone one who held out, board members, clubs and officials.

This year after a number of year's absence we have seen hockey return to the Southern Sports Academy.

We as a board have been working on this for some time and with the support of Hockey NSW we now see the program rolling out for the 2019/20 Academy year. This will provide an opportunity for our local elite athletes to experience development and growth in a Professional environment.

The program will also provide a natural extension of the very successful Hockey NSW COD program.

Congratulations to Wagga's Pat O'Donnell and Griffith's Andrew Sinclair on being selected as satellite Head Coaches for Wagga and Griffith respectively.

From a facilities perspective we have continued with our upgrade program and have completed a number of projects this year. They include:

- . In conjunction with Wagga Touch we have completed new storage sheds. This has allowed us to move everything out of the clubrooms and storing in a safe and secure environment.
- . New goals for Noonan Turf.
- . Replacing the carpet in the clubrooms, which had been there for over 30 years.
- . With the support of Riverina Water, installing a bottle filling and water station near Paul turf.
- . Replacing and upgrading the protection nets for the practice circle's on Paul Turf.
- . Installing aluminum benches near Paul and Noonan turfs.
- . New lighting in front of Canteen, to replace temporary lighting that was used to provide additional lighting.

Facility upgrade projects which are planned for next year include:

- . With the help of Wagga Council and Wagga Touch installing 4 new picnic tables near the canteen area.
- . Installing a dirt barrier along the southern end of Paul Turf.
- . Replacing the playing surface on Paul Turf
- . Installing a 2nd bottle filling and water station on Noonan Turf.

This year we have been successful in obtaining a number of grants to assist with our facilities upgrade.

The grants included:

- . \$10,000 from Community Partnerships (NSW Government) to assist with the building of the new storage sheds.
- . \$7,000 from Wagga City Council to assist with the building of the new storage sheds.

Note: Both these grants were approved in 2018 but utilized in 2019.

- . \$1300 from Wagga City Council to assist with the purchase and installation of the new aluminium seating on Noonan and Paul turfs.

- . \$2,000 from Office of Sport (NSW Government) to assist with the purchase of our own portable PA system.

A big thank you all these organization, without their help we would not be able to upgrade our facilities.

We also have 3 grant applications in the pipeline. They are for:

- . The purchase and installation of the 2nd Bottle Filling and drinking water station for Noonan field (Riverina Water and Community Partnerships, NSW Government grant applications).
- . To assist with hosting the 2020 Hockey NSW Half State Masters (NSW Office of Sport grant application).

There are no guarantees with any grant application, but we need to be in the process to give ourselves the best chance of obtaining funding to undertake the works.

In September this year I was asked to present to the Hockey NSW CEO and staff on what it is we do well in Wagga Hockey. This was an honour and gave us a great opportunity to talk about our challenges and what we believe we do well in Wagga Hockey.

The presentation was well received by everyone who attended the day and I have been asked to do the presentation again, at the Presidents forum in March 2021.

On the subject of our player No's our junior No's continue to grow each year, and this has had a natural flow on effect with the Hockey NSW COD with our numbers attending growing each year. This year our COD no's will be 50+, a record.

Whilst our junior No's continue to grow the same cannot be said for our Snr Nos, where we have seen a large drop off playing No's, over the last couple of years.

This will need to be a focus for the new board.

At the end of the 2019 season we have asked all members to participate in a 2019 competition review survey. Results of this survey will be compiled and made available to the incoming board, to use as a platform for development of the 2020 competition.

I believe the key focuses for the incoming board should be:

- . Development and recruitment of umpires to replenish a diminishing pool.
- . Structuring the 2020 competition using the feedback from the 2019 competition survey.

- . Supporting the junior competition with a more structure approach to maximize the opportunities from the current growth-does it need its own committee?.
- . Making sure the SSA Hockey program is well and truly embedded into our Hockey calendar.
- . Working with council to develop a MOU for the facility management
 - ex canteen and clubhouse.
- . Hosting a successful 2020 Hockey NSW Women's Half State Masters championships.
- . Project management of the surface replacement of Paul Turf.

Finally I would like to thank my board for 2019, for without them we would not have had a competition nor the success we have had this year. Thank you to Emily, Karen, Brittany, Sam, Mel, Thomas and Phil, you have worked extremely hard for the association whilst balancing family and work life (not always easy) , I and the association members thank you very much.

Ken Larkin
President

Wagga Wagga Combined Hockey Association

1.2 Secretary Report- Emily Paul

I have really enjoyed the opportunity to be part of the Board this year. For the first part of this year the focus was on a smoother registration process for all players via Revolutionise. The Active Kids Voucher seemed to be a much smoother process this year. The challenge going forward will be to strategically consider how we can use the 2 vouchers to increase participation in our sport. Other sports locally are doing a great job in this area. One component will be to consider the ways in which we promote inclusion and multiculturalism to potentially attract different groups to the sport.

The introduction of the weekly/fortnightly newsletter seemed to be well received based on the feedback at both meetings and in conversations around the fields. I believe this can be built upon through showcasing members each week as well as encouraging clubs and individuals to submit items for inclusion. It is also potentially a great way to build some awareness and understanding around state and national initiatives.

The uptake and participation in the Revolutionise training in October was great. I look forward to seeing clubs utilise this platform in 2020 and beyond. It will be an opportunity for clubs to streamline their administrative requirements, promote their

club and hopefully consider ways to engage others in the running of their club. I look forward to supporting clubs through this transition next year.

Unfortunately, I have decided to step down from the Board in 2020. I hope to take on positions to support the sport and our association in the near future. I am very willing to mentor and support anyone who may be interested in taking on this or any other Board positions in 2020. I plan to still support the Revolutionise work with clubs leading into 2020 and look for ways we can actively engage more members in the running of the association.

Finally, thank you to the clubs committees for the work you do and the support you have provided for the Board this year. It is not always easy taking on these voluntary positions, however, together we can achieve great things to ensure many more get to experience all that the sport of hockey has to offer.

Emily Paul

1.3 Treasurer Report – Karen Boyd

Balances of accounts as at 2nd December 2019

	\$
Cheque account	20282.78
Cash reserve account	58144.17
Term Deposit	274282.88
MasterCard account	2145.90
Fundraising account	854.33
Total	355710.06

2018 Books

Accounts for end of October yet to be finalised and should be finalised by end of December or early January.

2019 fees

All members fees paid on time and through revolutionise. No complaints this year. Everyone seems to have a handle on it.

Club fees. As of end of October we had three clubs outstanding on invoices. Two have paid since and one remaining. Chasing these up and discussions need to be made as rules state that they should be marked as unfinancial.

Canteen

Canteen for 2019 consisted of Saturday trade, State Championships and Packham cup. Thanks to the clubs for their involvement this year. Also, thanks to those clubs who held BBQs on Friday nights so that juniors had something to rely on.

Facilities

2019 seen new tables and bench seats and drink machine put in around fields. These are all great enhancements for our facilities. Majority of funds gained from grant income. Big thanks to Ken for applying wherever possible so that improvement can be done

Presentation night

Another great night. Even though the numbers were down this year we still had a memorable night. It has been suggested that \$50 per person is too much. We will investigate a different option for 2020.

Representative Teams

Less teams going away this year was easier. Hardest team as under 13 boys as they had to travel so far. It included overnight accommodation on way up and back and Grafton is not the easiest place to get accommodation. It was costly for the boys, but they all had a great time. I would like to see us do something different for the younger age groups as a lot of parents seem to go along and a bus is not really warranted most of the time. I think we should try letting the parents get their own accommodation and transport. Will see what we can organise in 2020.

Conclusion

2019 as a very busy year. Financially we are looking great and ready to install a new turf in 2020. Looking forward to see this happen.

Karen Boyd
Treasurer

1.4 Competitions Report – Melinda Chyb

2019 saw significant changes to the Wagga hockey competition. Firstly, set times were introduced and were played in lowest to highest grade order. The competition was run over 20 weeks with all grades having byes. The entire draw was made available before the commencement of the season which received positive feedback. The removal of women from the men's competition saw a reduction in men's teams which led to a two division competition for men. Women had a three division competition.

Overall the competition ran smoothly over the season with very few changes to the original draw culminating in a successful grand final day.

The Competition Manager has been an eye opening experience with numerous challenges, highs and lows. Overall I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have learnt a lot since first starting in this position. One challenge that arose throughout the season were deferments for representative commitments, this was difficult to predict which teams would have significant numbers of players

representing Wagga hockey to schedule their team a bye. I feel that I have learnt a lot from this year to better predict issues including deferments and representative commitments.

The timely availability of the entire draw received positive feedback throughout the whole season and this is something that should continue to be a priority for Wagga hockey. Allowing people to know early their commitment requirements makes it much easier for people and families to roster and schedule hockey into their lives.

I wish to thank everyone for continuing to play and support Wagga hockey and to thank all those that encouraged and supported me in the competitions manager role this year.

I hope to see you all again next year for another exciting year of hockey.

Mel Chyb

1.5 Officiating – Sam Arnold

2019 season saw a number of changes for Wagga Hockey.

Firstly, a recommendation from Hockey NSW to move from the traditional 2 x 35 minutes halves to the international 4 x 15 minutes quarters with 2 minutes break between the first & second and third & fourth quarters.

To fully implement the time format and ease the burden on umpires, Wagga Hockey had the opportunity to engage clubs to provide central technical official to control the game time for their own games which was a big step up for clubs and teams. It was only previously done for the finals series and volunteer arrangement for Division 1 at times which was coordinated by Wagga Hockey prior to the season.

There was a significant drop in senior umpires from previous seasons from clubs, meaning fewer umpires from clubs had to officiate more games than before. Unfortunately, the player culture in the association, has had a negative effect to increasing umpire numbers with fewer umpires wishing to umpire the top division by the season's end.

All clubs are guilty of heavily relying on the same people to umpire all the time. Overall in the association, for eleven games and therefore 22 senior umpiring duties each week to be filled only by a pool of 45 members regularly umpiring the games is a worrying concern when there was over 60 umpires in the previous 3 seasons!

This was apparent when late in the season, I was forced to switch the two Division 1 Women timeslots on short notice in order to find suitable umpires to officiate the games. This was outside the normal representative period which umpiring resources are usually stretched.

This is an area of concern for 2020 season for the competition draw and timeslots.

I would like to highlight with the contribution of members from CSU who from the start, supported the move to provide volunteer tech officials with the individual teams within the club assigned a tech official duty for each other's games. They also regularly supplied four out of the eight Division 1 appointments each week and several times had all four umpires officiating the two Division 1 games at 5pm.

Throughout the season, Wagga Hockey hosted information sessions for umpiring, technical officials with help and support from Hockey NSW to help clubs and members out. Thanks to all who supported and participated in the sessions.

Unfortunately, on the field there was number of red cards issued during the season including three cards in a four-week period which was disappointing. I would to thank Ken Larkin stepping in to facilitate the judiciary hearings on my behalf as I was unable to dedicate my time to the pressing matters.

I would to the thank all the people who stepped up to blow the whistle and officiate games throughout the season. As after the hockey ball, field umpires are the one field you can not play a game without and many people within this association don't realise this until one is missing.

Sam Arnold (Officiating Manager for the 2019 Season)

1.6 Development – Thomas Belling

Thank you for allowing me to fill this position in 2019. Overall it has been a successful year for Junior Hockey whilst uncovering a few areas to work on moving forward.

Junior Numbers continue to increase. This year we saw an approximately 20% increase in numbers off the back of a small marketing campaign. A standard information sheet was sent to all local primary, secondary and private schools asking to include the information in their school newsletters or notice boards. Some schools were willing to include the information. Next year, it is advisable to get this information out sooner, to allow follow up from schools who don't reply.

Additionally, the marketing campaign could be increased to include a stall at the Market Place in the lead in to the season. Griffith did this to good effect this year. This year we decided not to run the canteen on Friday nights, but instead clubs took turns in running a BBQ at juniors. Thank you to Cavaliers hockey who ran the BBQ most weeks. The BBQ was particularly successful during the warmer weeks at the start and end of the season. This is something that should be continued in 2020 with perhaps greater rotation of clubs, and all clubs completing equal number of weeks.

Similar to the senior competition, junior umpires is an area that needs immediate attention to ensure longevity of our game. In 2020, I would recommend having a junior umpire coach, who essentially would coach a 'team' of junior umpires. This would include game allocation and feedback. A goal of this would be to get more of our junior umpires away umpiring at state championships.

This year we were unfortunate with the weather on Grand Final / Presentation night, meaning that we had to cram the presentation night under the awning of the canteen. Perhaps next year it would be better to spread the presentation night over a few weeks or have it on a different night and potentially different location. That aside,

the night was a success in terms of trophies and medals. All U11 and U9 players received a participation medal which was well received. Thank you to Inter Sport Wagga (Formerly Sportsmans Warehouse) who supplied trophies and donated vouchers for our major awards. I would highly recommend Marcus to anyone organising sporting medals

Thomas Belling

1.7 Representative – Brittany O'Donnell

This year was a great year for our rep teams despite not sending teams in all age groups.

Our under 15 boys were the first to go away to Macarthur this year, unfortunately didn't come away with a win but had great reports from coach Jackson White and manager Kylie Woodgate on the performance and sportsman ship from our boys.

There was our Open Men in Moorebank, a great win for Wagga with the Men taking away Division 3 Champions, Manager Ken Larkin couldn't have spoke higher of the way the men played over the weekend and rumour has it may even take on the role again in 2020.

As well as the men playing on the June long weekend we had our Under 11 Boys and Girls and Under 15 girls away playing in the Canberra carnival. 15 girls had a tough challenge being placed in division 1 but did not back down. Our Under 11 Boys and Girls got to experience their first carnival and thoroughly enjoyed it.

15 Girls were then held in Wagga, the girls did our association proud finishing 3rd in their pool. Overall the championships went smoothly, the volunteers over the weekend were greatly appreciated. We wouldn't be able to hold such great carnivals in Wagga without the support of our members and volunteers.

Next up were our Under 13 boys, they took the big hike up to Grafton but it wasn't without a reward. The boys play outstandingly and took out Division 3 champions. Coach Craig Knowles and manager Mel Chyb reported a great time was had by all and could not be happier taking away the win.

Lastly our Masters taking away the over 40s and 50s age group in Bathurst, combining with Tumut and Griffith to make the most out of the teams. As per usual masters had a great time enjoying their hockey and socialising as well, and even though it wasn't under Wagga Griffiths over 35s team took out the win in their divisions.

Master half state will be held in Wagga next year, we hope to get as many Wagga teams in as possible. It will be a big carnival so if you can help out at all over that weekend please let the new committee know or contact Sharon Smith.

I want to thank all Coaches and Managers for their commitment this year and thank you to all the board members for all their help and support over the past 2 years and especially this year as it got harder for me to do stuff.

Congratulations and good luck to the 2019/2020 board.

Brittany O'Donnell

1.8 Events and Facilities – Vacant Positions

2.0 Election of Committee for 2019 Election of committee members

(1) Nominations of candidates for election as committee members of the association:

(a) must be made in writing, nominating the committee position they wish to stand for, and (b) must be delivered to the secretary of the association at least 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.

(2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill a position on the committee, The chairperson may seek nominations from the floor for the position.

(3) If insufficient nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.

(4) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are taken to be elected.

(5) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot is to be held.

(6) The ballot for the election of committee members of the committee is to be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct. (7) A person nominated as a candidate for election as a committee member of the association must be a member of the association.

Position	2019 Member	Nomination 1	Nomination 2	Nomination 3	2020 Member
President	Ken Larkin	Ken Larkin			
Secretary	Emily Paul	Amy Smart			Amy Smart
Treasurer	Karen Boyd				Nil nominations received
Facilities Manager		Phil Stone			Phil Stone
Competitions Manager	Melinda Chyb	Melinda Chyb			Mel Chyb
Officiating Manager	Sam Arnold				Nil nominations received
Representative Manager	Brittany O'Donnell	Craig Knowles			Craig Knowles
Development Manager	Thomas Belling	Thomas Belling			Patrick O'Donnell
Events Manager	Vacant				Nil nominations received

President – Ken Larkin nominated by Mel Chyb (seconded by Aaron Crump)

Secretary – nomination Amy Smart (seconded by Emma Lynch)

Treasurer – Karen provided commentary regarding the workload of Treasurer and her reluctance to renominate. She has discussed with accountant the feasibility of

outsourcing the bookkeeping at approx. \$40-50 per hour, for one hour per week

Facilities – Phil Stone nominated by Patrick O'Donnell and seconded by Aaron Crump. Phil Accepted the nomination.

Competitions – Mel Chyb seconded by Patrick O'Donnell

Representative – Craig Knowles nomination seconded by Phil Stone

Development – Thomas Belling has withdrawn his nomination due to moving away mid season 2020. He is willing to help the incoming person in the position for the start of the season.

Pat O'Donnell nominated by Brittany O'Donnell and seconded by Kate Wickson (Pat Accepts the nomination).

3.0 Account signatories:

We move that the signatory for the Wagga Hockey Bank Account be updated from Emily Paul (2019 Secretary) to Amy Smart (2020 Secretary).

Moved.

Meeting Closed: Meeting closed at 8:02pm

Next AGM: 23 November, 2020