

Secretary's Report

The Board following the 2021 AGM consisted of –

President – Andrew Goggin

Treasurer – Mark Lindsay

Secretary – Paul Wines

Directors – Bill Calleja

Ron Ryan

Doug Vail

Chris Hopper

Board activity

At the first meeting of the new Board it was determined that Pat Branley would be invited to join the Board as an expert in Referee expansion

15 July – Pat Branley accepted the offer

During the year the board met 7 times and the attendance was as follows

President – Andrew Goggin 7

Treasurer – Mark Lindsay 7

Secretary – Paul Wines 7

Directors – Bill Calleja 7

Doug Vail 5

Ron Ryan 4

Chris Hopper 7

Pat Branley 5 (from 6)

The number of Board meetings was consistent with the previous year.

Individual member(s) of the Board

- Attended Ryde Council user group meetings.

The Board has submitted on time all required forms and advices to NSW Touch.

The Rep Team Committee was in place again and whilst the COVID situation and wet weather decimated the competition aspect of the rep season, their preparation work was excellent. Due to COVID restrictions face to face interaction between the Rep Team Committee and the Board was limited but Pat Batiste did address the Board in respect to representative refereeing commitments.

General items

Local Competitions

Due to COVID restrictions sign on sheets in the summer competition were supposed to be completed by team managers. Unfortunately, this did not occur in a large number of cases. We tried to implement a checking system but it was difficult to get someone to stay with this job as it was very unrewarding due to the lack of assistance from a number of team managers.

As usual we continued to have trouble getting all players to register prior to playing. While the registration process worked well with the majority of newer sides, the culture of teams who have been playing for a number of years is proving difficult to change despite constant pushing. This is an aspect that will need to be addressed by the incoming Board.

The club ran close to capacity in the senior Summer competition based on the number of fields available. The junior comp has room for more teams and the number of teams participating in the older divisions is a concern for the Board. The junior coaching clinic is one initiative that was continued this year to try and invigorate the junior competition. Obviously, it will take time to bring these young ones through and we need to have other initiatives in place now in order to retain them when they get older.

This year we introduced a maximum number of rep players to be able to play in a team. Hopefully this will mean that the reduction in the ability difference between the teams will mean a healthier retention. We had an U8s comp for the first time and apparently all teams enjoyed the experience.

This year we had 56 junior teams (an increase of 8 teams). We had 33 Senior Opens, 12 Mixed and 6 Women's teams.

The winter comp this year only has 8 teams which is a bit of a disappointment but the weather has probably played a part in this. We have introduced a handicapping system and this has meant that there have been no blowouts in the scores.

Conclusion

Whilst the majority of teams do the right thing it continues to be a disappointment that not all teams feel they have to comply with the rules. Thank you to the members who have been supportive of our efforts. A special thank you to Nicola Wines who makes my job a lot easier by being available to help with administrative tasks. Thanks to my fellow board members for their efforts throughout the course of the year. A lot of their work goes on behind the scenes but without it the club would not function. A special thanks to Andrew Goggin who is the face of the club (and what a face it is). All jokes aside, Andrew does a power of work for the club and without his efforts we would not be in the position we are in today. Thanks Andrew.