

Secretary's Report

The Board following the 2022 AGM consisted of –

President – Andrew Goggin

Treasurer – Mark Lindsay

Secretary – Paul Wines

Directors – Bill Calleja

Ron Ryan

Doug Vail

Chris Hopper

Board activity

Prior to the first meeting of the new Board it was determined that Pat Branley would be invited to continue in his role on the Board as an expert in Referee expansion

1 June – Pat Branley accepted the offer

During the year the board met 6 times and the attendance was as follows

6 meetings - Paul Wines, Chris Hopper and Pat Branley

5 meetings - Andrew Goggin, Mark Lindsay, Bill Calleja and Doug Vail 5

3 meetings - Ron Ryan

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 Board also had a joint meeting with the Rep Team Committee to discuss interaction between the two and the future direction of the Rep Team Committee. The meeting was very productive.

General items

Local Competitions

The junior comp had a steep increase in team numbers but this was largely in the younger aged groups. The number of teams participating in the older divisions is still a concern for the Board. The junior coaching clinic is one initiative that was continued this year to try and invigorate the junior competition. The efforts of Chris Hopper in making this such a success cannot be over-stated. The issue is that this program will obviously take time to bring these young ones through. Once playing, we need to have other initiatives in place in order to retain them when they get older. To try and immediately increase our numbers in the older

age groups, the Rep Team Committee has launched an initiative and asked all the rep players to get at least one friend to play in the local competition. If this is even partially successful then that would be great for numbers.

This year we had 69 junior teams (an increase of 13 from last year and 21 in total from previous year). In the Seniors, we had 30 Senior teams (drop of 3), 12 Mixed (drop of 2) and 6 Women's teams (drop of 2). We are hopeful that a couple of the older junior girl's teams will play in the women's competition next year.

In the senior competition we reverted to players signing on rather than managers doing the whole team. We had more success with this process than in previous years but still had issues. The new teams are more likely to comply but established teams do not make as much effort.

The winter comp this year has 9 teams. This is consistent with last year (increase of 1). The comp has been going well with most games being evenly contested.

I said this last year about the senior's competition but it is still true: that whilst the majority of teams do the right thing it continues to be a disappointment that not all teams/managers feel they have to comply with the rules. I don't want to be overly negative, as the vast number of teams and managers do the right thing and to them, I need to say a big thank you.

Conclusion

In conclusion, 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. 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.