



# NSWTA AGM

## Annual General Meeting

5th November 2022

Bankstown Sports Club

and Via ZOOM

10am



## Meeting Book - NSWTA AGM

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**Financial Statement**

Rod  
Hetherington

**Finance Report**

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**Election of Officers**

Chris  
Dolahenty

**Director (2 year appointment)**

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Mark Hearnden - Resume - (2022-NSWTA).pdf - 102

**Director- Technical (2 Year Appointment)**

On the form, the nominator was incorrectly listed as NSWTA. It has been confirmed Tony Trad is the nominator and Chris Dolanehty the Seconder.

Ian-Matthew-10-05-2022 (1).pdf - 107

22 Matto CV.pdf - 109

**Appointment of Life Membership**

NIL

**Special Resolutions**

NIL

**Notice of Motions**

There are two notices of motion to change the constitution. One was moved by the NSWTA Board, and one was moved by Northern Beaches. Both deal with Gender equity on the Board.

Decision

Mark  
Hearnden

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**Appointment of Auditor**

The Board recommends the appointment of Denis Jeff, Quality Accounting as Auditors of the NSWTA for the 2022/23 Financial Year.  
Moved Rod Hetherington Seconded Chris Dolahenty

Rod  
Hetherington

**General Business**

NIL

**Acknowledgements**

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## NEW SOUTH WALES TOUCH ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Via ZOOM

### MINUTES

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#### 1. Welcome

Mark Hearnden (MH) opened the meeting at 10.08am and thanked all for attending. MH welcomed Life members Ian, Fran, John and Anita Hagarty (AH) and Jamie O' Connor (JOC) from TFA and any new members attending the AGM for the first time.

#### 2. Apologies

Albion Park TA

Griffith TA

Tony Trad Director of Coaching

Cary Thompson Life Member

Michael Clark Life Member

#### 3. Registration of Attendance

Mark Hearnden NSWTA President (MH)

Chris Dolahenty NSWTA Vice President (CD)

Rod Hetherington NSWTA Finance Director (RH)

Ian Matthew NSWTA Technical Director (IM) {Life Member}

Stuart Geros NSWTA Independent Director (SG)

Liz Jackson NSWTA Independent Director (LJ)

Dean Russell NSWTA General Manager (DR)

Kylie Hearne NSWTA Business Operations Manager (KH)

Rob Pidgeon NSWTA State Participation Manager (RP)

Ben Williams NSWTA Event Manager (BW)

Satya Puthi NSWTA Finance Officer (SPu)

Nathan Loveday NSWTA Member Services Coordinator (NL)

Henrik Anthony NSWTA Member Services Coordinator (HA)





David Stone NSWTA Member Services Coordinator (DS)

Voting Delegates

- Joe Dougall Balmain Jnrs TA (BAL)
- Trent Colquhoun Bankstown TA (BAN)
- Kylie Wilkinson Bankstown Jets TA (JET)
- Sandy Praszczalek Berkley Vale (BEV)
- Bec Faddy Camdan Haven (CMH)
- Bianca Park Cammeray TA (CAM)
- Mel Harrison Carlingford TA (CAR)
- Nahima Knight Central Coast TA (CCO)
- John Ryan Eastern Suburbs TA (EAS)
- Jenny Morgan Evans Head TA (EVH)
- Jeremy Lillis Greystanes TA (GYS)
- Sharon Forster Griffith TA (GRI)
- Brad Mitchell Hills TA (HIL)
- Carol Jones Hornsby TA (HOR)
- Craig Thomas Schumacher Jerrabomberra TA (JBA)
- Jackson Leeton TA (LEE)
- Karen Merry Lithgow TA (LIT)
- Jenny McFarlene Lismore TA (LIS)
- Craig Englert Macksville YA (MAC)
- Ian Kalms Manly Warringah TA (MAN)
- Shelley Rush Nichols Maitland TA (MTD)
- Sue Hensley Milton Ulludulla TA (MIU)
- Erin Perini Mudgee TA (MUD)
- Rebecca Jackson Newcastle TA (NEW)
- Georgia Randell Northern Beaches Renegades TA (NBR)
- Aida Catalano Northern Suburbs TA (NSB)
- Belinda Holt Nowra Shoalhaven TA (NOW)
- Michael Rudd Orange TA (OGE)
- Pam Hetherington Parramatta TA (PAR)
- Glenn Fabian Penrith TA (PEN)
- Geoff Stait Portland TA (PLD)
- Melissa Henderson St George TA (STG)
- Marc Lawrence Wagga Wagga TA (WAG)
- Matt Cooper Wallsend TA (WAL)
- Paul Khadour Westmead TA (WMD)
- Robert Summers Wollongong TA (WOL)
- Will Collins Yass TA (YAS)
- Evan Robertson Southern Suns (SUN)
- Clayton Blackman Sydney Rebels (REB)
- Tony Doyle Sydney Mets (MET) {Life Member}



Anthony Dudeck Sydney Scorpions (SCO)  
Wayne Goodchild Hunter Western Hornets (HUN)

Non-Voting Members  
Fran Hanson Director of Selectors (FH) {Life Member}

Observers  
TFA Anita Hagarty- Chair TFA (AH)  
TFA Jamie O'Connor- CEO (JOC)  
Hills TA Keith Lee (KL)  
Orange TA Joel Beggell (JB)  
Eastern Suburbs Mary Wachman (MW)

MH advised that the meeting has a quorum.

MH requested DR to run through how the voting process will take place via zoom.

DR spoke on the voting process using the online process via Election Runner and explained that it would be conducted. DR explained that the special resolution must have a 75% vote for passing and to move any motions asked that members type their names into the chat function on ZOOM which would be monitored by NSWTA State Participation Manager, Rob Pidgeon.

#### 4. Minutes from previous AGM

There were no matters arising.

**Resolved to accept the minutes of the previous NSWTA Annual General Meeting.**

**Moved                    SUN                    Seconded                    WOL**

**Carried**

#### 5. Annual Reports

##### a. Presidents Report

MH

MH spoke briefly on his report and stated this is his first report as President. He reflected on a challenging year and thanked all the volunteers for their work in such a difficult time. He recognised the outstanding contribution of all staff and thanked DR, RP, and KH as the last 2 years have been difficult with fire, flood and Covid.

He recognised our recent award recognitions and congratulated all involved.



Mark recognised the boards efforts and thanked them

**b. General Managers Report**

DR noted While COVID-19 has impacted our lives in so many ways over the past 12 months, the role of community sport has never been more vital, helping restore and uphold the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our community. He acknowledged and thank all our volunteers across the sport who have played a vital role for our community in bouncing back.

The Annual Report is quite lengthy, and he noted he would provide brief highlights and take any questions. The report also includes content sections from the Sport Department headed by Rob Pidgeon and the Business Operations Department headed up by Kylie Hearne so questions may be passed onto either.

The 2020/2021, year will be remembered as one of highs and of lows. The way the community rebounded out of what we would now term COVID-19 Mk1 was both pleasing and positive.

The running of our events with limited numbers and tight regulations under the Public Health Order caused all means of complications for delivering the events with restrictive elements for our members.

Through COVID 19 our participation, especially in the work we do with the school systems, and they do themselves, took a significant hit due restrictions on school sport. Pleasingly our senior participation was up 11% on the previous period. This due in the main to the mini season 1 competitions we were able to work with affiliates to get up and running. Effectively from a participation viewpoint giving us two Season 1s in the same reporting period. DR acknowledged and thanked Jamie O'Connor and his team at TFA in the assistance in aiding both us and our members in making this happen.

COVID-19 continued to be a disrupter to the business for the first three-quarters of the period. Its impact was felt in many areas. The most significant effect was on junior participation, particularly in the school environment. Events directly run by the NSWTA such as Allschools and Primary School Gala days, staff delivered development programs and the Sporting Schools programs all had to be greatly reduced. Also, inter and intra school sport participation, in many areas, halted completely. This was due to the Public Health Orders and the application of those by the various education departments. As such it meant large chunks of school participation either did not go ahead or was significantly reduced. A similar effect to what is being experienced now, which will be reflected in the next reporting period.



Our junior affiliate numbers were also affected by COVID. This was more so due to the extension of 2020 winter sports seasons, which overlapped our traditional junior grassroots participation period. The net result of the decline was mainly due to three factors. Some of our affiliates had to offer greater reduced competition due to green space availability. Some did not run junior competitions. Some suffered the effect of school teams who participate in park competitions being barred by principals. In some affiliates, this was more than 20 teams for their Season 2 competition.

There were also some positives to come out of COVID-19. We must acknowledge the financial package provided by the NSW State Government, not just for the NSWTA but also for those Affiliates who were affected in the back end of the 2020 Season 1. Also, due to the potential impact, the Board determined to budget for a 30% downturn in participation at our Affiliates. This thankfully did not eventuate as our membership in seniors came flooding back to play.

On a representative level, the COVID-19 challenges continued—each of our majors having to be delivered in a different format. From having no spectators and no more than 500 participants on the venue at any one time, the need to gain exemption to run our State Cup, to restricting parents for the Junior State Cup. The need to dramatically change the structure of our competitions to allow the movement on and off-venue. All added extra pressures and infrastructure needs to be able to run the events.

Again, another surprising positive out of the situation was acceptance of the back-to-back to back game format that was required to be instituted. Our membership has indicated a wish to see it continue, albeit with them allowed to stay on venues rather than having to leave.

As great acknowledgement to the organisation, the COVID delivered State Cup was awarded the Sport NSW Event of the Year. This is a tremendous nod to our staff who performed under extreme pressure and compliance issues to deliver the event for our members.

We welcomed LJ to our Board as an Independent Director. LJ has a strong background in our game and has quickly proven to be a great value add to the Board.

He congratulates our Rod Wise Medal Winner for 2020-21, Craig Englert of Macksville Touch Association and Northern Eagles. A well-deserving recipient who is unassuming and works tirelessly for everyone to be able to enjoy our game. As always, a highlight for the NSWTA was the retention of the State of Origin.

DR stated that 2020/21 feels like we have been thrown in the washing machine, one that we thought we had finally escaped from, only recently to be drawn back into. COVID-19 Mk2 will now challenge us even more than 2020/21, for our membership, and as a sport.





At all levels, we will work together to get through this current challenge and come out stronger on the other side.

We always look for a positive to act as the light at the end of the tunnel. That positive is our celebration in 2022 of our 50th Anniversary. In many ways, given the challenges and impact of COVID-19, it may well be a rebirthing of an even stronger and robust organisation.

In closing DR acknowledged the Board. Each continues to be engaged in our sport and in our direction. Both as a unit and individuals they provide a strong leadership and guidance to the NSWTA. The organisation could not be in better hands.

**c. Technical report**

**i. Referees report**

IM spoke on the SOO from TT report and how they are working towards a united NSW moving forward. With regards to referees they tried a few initiatives during COVID. This has provided more platforms for them to work with. He spoke on the female development program and with the support of the Her Sport Her Way funding they can move forward with more development. With the assistance of QTF's Dave Field, a Coach Development program is being worked on to have in place a better education system as well as a Referee Coach Program within NSW which will see around 24 Referees at State Cup go through the program. This will result in a video analysis to ensure the referees are receiving the correct development.

**ii. Selectors report**

FH spoke on how they have tried to be proactive during Covid by re writing the pin upgrade and working with Anette Thomas Schumacher upgrading the living document. Michael Clark has spoken to the Regional Directors regarding upskilling selectors within their regions and thanked IM and TT for guiding her selectors group through ensuring they are up to date with trends of the game.

**iii. Coaching report**

DR spoke on TT report. He made mentioned that it has been difficult and challenging year but was pleased that the Team NSW culture was stronger than ever. TT was pleased with the collaborative approach between selectors and coaches and looks forwarding to creating a female coaching plan moving forward.

The HPU unit have been working with TT as the chair and now have David Baggio and Matt Tope working with the group. They have been working on the points system to update the team and player points structures. They are also involved in



the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary projects and the Jnr Regional division naming along with VC structure and NYC and SOO planning and execution.

**d. Regions reports**

- i. Suns  
Nil questions
- ii. Sydney Rebels  
Nil questions
- iii. Sydney Mets  
Nil questions
- iv. Sydney Scorpions  
Nil questions
- v. Hornets  
Nil questions
- vi. Eagles  
Nil questions

**Resolved to accept the reports of the 2020/21 NSWTA Annual General Meeting.**

**Moved            JET                            Seconded            MET**

**Carried**

**6. Financial Statement**

RH spoke on the difficulty of readjusting budgets during the covid. He spoke on the government support package and explained how that then assisted the affiliates during COVID. He highlighted being able to maintain the regional funding.

With a financial profit for the year, he spoke on projects that are being put in place moving forward as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, strategic plan, and the Referee development human resource funding.

He spoke on the \$1million dollar loss that we faced during the current COVID period and thanked DR and SPU working towards achieving the government funding and the affiliates for getting people playing the sport.

He also stated that MET had sent through financial queries, and he hoped he had answered them. DR spoke on the questions asked by MET and the responses from the NSWTA.



**Resolved to accept the financial report of the 2020/21 NSWTA Annual General Meeting.**

**Moved            SUN                    Seconded            BAN**

**Carried**

## **7. Election of Officers**

MH asked DR to go over the online voting process. DR advised the process of using Election Runner online. He noted eligible voting delegates would be receiving an email allowing them to vote. RP took over and advised emails were being sent out and asked delegates voted accordingly.

With voting taking place DR spoke on EAS question asked earlier how does NSWTA gauge success and development of the game present? Is it the number of teams player at JSC and State Cup or jnr and snrs at park level. EAS point being there is no incentive for clubs to run competitions to attract a large number of park teams to help develop the sport in the community. What can NSWTA and the TFA offer affiliates to nurture our sport.

DR advised that the primarily it is growth of the sport at grass roots level as it then leads into the representative pathway, but the measure of success is grassroots. Whist the pathway is important, our focus is on grassroots. Affiliates just ignoring park and concentrating on representative level is detrimental to the sport. Now that TFA and NSW strategic plans are in place we can now identify that growth is a key element.

RP advised that online voting had closed, and results were in.

MH advised CD was elected Vice President of the NSWTA for the next two years. MH thanked the members and congratulated CD. CD thanked MH and appreciated everyone's support and advised that he is committed to ensuring NSW stay strong, and increase the communication with all affiliates and thanked everyone

MH advised RH elected Finance Director of the NSWTA for the next two years. RH thanked all for the vote of confidence.

**Resolved to destroy the voting poll.**

**Moved            WOL            Seconded            NOW**

**Carried**

## **8. Appointment of Life Membership**

NIL



## 9. Special Resolutions

MH spoke to the proposed changes to the constitution and why the Board were in support of them.

He noted that the Chairperson, if passed, would be elected by the Board as best practice. For the interested directors, the basis for having a country-based member, was on the strength of affiliate numbers in the country. He also spoke on the importance of the Board nominations committee to ensure nominees meet criteria.

MH asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the motion. With no questions MH asked RP to launch the voting process via Election Runner to all voting delegates.

Voting results were reviewed by MH who advised that he is pleased to announce that the motion had been passed and thanked everyone for their support.

**Resolved to destroy the voting poll.**

**Moved            YAS        Seconded        STG**

**Carried**

## 10. Notice of Motions

NIL

## 11. Appointment of Auditor

**Resolved to appoint Denis Jeff Quality Accounting as Auditors of the NSWTA for the 2021/22 Financial year.**

**Moved            RH        Seconded        CD**

**Carried**

## 12. General Business

MH introduced the new NSWTA Strategic Plan. He advised that RP was sending a link to a Strategic Plan video for all to view and advised that the office has been working on the plan for some time now, but due to the COVID 19 impact, it did slow the process down. With that said MH advised that McGlaughlin Sports Consultancy were brought in for this project and did some great work putting this together with the Board and Staff following the engagement with stakeholders.

MH advised that the strategic plan will be issued to all members next week and stated he was really pleased it has been finalised so we can “knuckle down” and start working on moving



forward. DR will present the year one operational plan to the next board meeting

No further general business was declared prior to the meeting.

MH thanked everyone for their attendance.

Meeting closed 11.32am



## CHAIR REPORT

As I write this report, I get a sense of 'rinse and repeat' given the similarities between 2021 & 2022.

Our sport and the community generally, faced the continuing challenges of 'learning to live with COVID-19' plus a 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive La Nina event which brought extensive flooding across the east coast of NSW, adversely impacting many of our country affiliates. Numerous affiliate competitions were unable to complete their seasons, and many were cancelled completely. These adverse weather conditions also led to the cancellations of several NSW Touch events much to the disappointment of our participants and our invaluable volunteer community.

Once again, I'd like to recognise and thank our volunteers for their tireless efforts in promoting, supporting, and delivering our sport across the state of NSW over the past 12 months. You have faced many challenges and hurdles. You have continued to 'show-up' and go 'above and beyond' in the most difficult of circumstances. Affiliate and regional committee members, directors, referees, selectors, coaching staff, team managers, ground staff, canteen operators and so many more selfless individuals who are so integral to the wonderful touch football community in New South Wales. On behalf of the Board of NSWTA and on behalf of all participants, I thank you.

Earlier this year the Board was excited to launch the NSWTA Strategic Plan for 2022-2024 which is designed to 'Enhance the experience and grow our Game!'. This plan, which was developed with consultation and collaboration from key stakeholders, succinctly articulates how we will deliver on our organisational purpose is built on three key foundation priorities of Support, Grow and Succeed. The Board will continue to actively monitor our progress against the strategic objectives whilst ensuring that sufficient resources and management focus is applied to set us up for success.

As I alluded to earlier, the interruption to and cancellation of numerous affiliate-based competitions and NSWTA managed events over the past 12 months has materially impacted our operating revenue. This has required prudent and responsible management by the business and the Board. NSWTA has been fortunate to benefit from the support of government financial assistance once again through this period. It is worth recognising that NSWTA has been extremely fortunate to have entered the COVID-19 pandemic in a strong financial position due to the responsible management of Dean Russell and his team. It is pleasing to report that NSWTA continues to maintain a strong balance sheet against a backdrop of global economic uncertainty.

I'd like to acknowledge my fellow directors for their commitment & contribution over the past 12 months and for their support of me in my role as Chairperson of the Board. We are fortunate to have diversity of opinions and experiences on the Board which contribute to robust discussions across the many topics we address, all of which are focussed on what is in the best interest of our membership.

On behalf of the Board, I thank Dean Russell, Kylie Hearne & Rob Pigeon for their outstanding leadership over the past 12 months. The Board is so proud of our staff and the work that they do in all manner of conditions. It's been a very challenging 12 months for our team, and I thank you all for your commitment and dedication to our sport.

As we look ahead, once again the outlook is uncertain. As I write this report, NSW is experiencing heavy rain and flooding associated with a forecast 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive La Nina event. It is likely these conditions will impact our sport and our community however I am incredibly confident that our wonderful touch football community will stay positive & patient as we find innovative ways to 'get back on the fields'.

In closing, I'd like to recognise that we are celebrating our Golden Jubilee of 50 years for the NSWTA organisation. There are so many individuals to whom we owe our gratitude & appreciation for the hard work they did and continue to do in developing, growing, and running the game. To those who came before us, and everyone involved today. Thanks for your contribution to our great sport in NSW.

**Mark Hearnden**

## General Managers Report

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the New South Wales Touch Association. The Annual Report is an overview of activities conducted by the organisation for 2021-22 period. The report also includes content from the Sport Department headed by Rob Pidgeon and the Business Operations Department headed up by Kylie Hearne.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021/22 year has proven to be the most challenging year to navigate in the New South Wales Touch Association's history.

The timing of the Omicron variant and the accompanying lockdown, initial in the greater Sydney region and then wider regions across the state, had a devastating effect on participation at the affiliate level and school-based events and interactions. We could not have picked a worse time for staging the lockdown for the sport in NSW. Coming at a time when affiliates are preparing for the commencement of their competitions. Our members and prospective members are making choices about their level of participation. Therefore, the negative impact was twofold. Firstly, participants decided whether they would participate as there were concerns about the risk and the state vaccination policies. For our volunteers, the timing of the lockdowns meant that any competition they would look to commence could not do so until post-November 1st. This made it difficult for them to secure green space if they needed to push their starting and finishing dates back. They also had to navigate the Government's vaccination policy which meant that non-vaccinated persons could not participate until post-December 15 or decide whether to run a short phase competition or their regular length. Faced with all these complications, we saw several volunteers choose not to run their Season 2 competitions. More than 18 Junior or Senior competitions did not proceed. A vast majority of the rest of our Affiliate based competitions saw a downturn in participation as people made decisions around the level of risk they were willing to entertain. We certainly acknowledge those volunteers' running affiliates who decided to push through in what was a stressful time for all.

When lockdowns were lifted, there was a genuine excitement within the state to kick start the sport again. However, it seemed that the weather gods conspired against us. The La Nina weather pattern disrupted our grassroots game and our representative calendar significantly.

The representative events are the sports' second line of income. Of our six (6) major events, only two were completed: the Junior State Cup Southern Conference and the Junior Regionals. We lost the Vawdon Cup and Country Championships due to the COVID lockdowns. Despite postponement in some instances, the weather forced the cancellation of the Junior State Cup Northern Conference and the State Cup, the first time in its history has the State Cup had not been played.

However, the weather, through constant rain and flooding, really impacted our domestic grassroots competitions again, with many having to cancel their Season 1 competitions or forcing them to delay the start to post July 1. Some have also had to cancel competitions due to the inability to get onto fields. However, even in instances Affiliates have been able to get up and running, with the amount of rain the fields have received since October 2021, their saturation point has not allowed them to recover. Again, impacting the Affiliate's ability to run full regular-length competitions.

The impacts of both elements, Omicron and weather effects, have considerably reduced our ability to deliver in the Schools arena throughout 2021/22 placing further downward pressures on participation at that level. The impact of not being able to run programs then hampers our ability to promote the sport and our Affiliate based competitions for these participants to move into. While this does not have the same financial impact on the organisation as our Affiliates and events, the work done in this area of the business is an investment in our future.



The net result of these two significant disrupters this year is substantial. Our senior participation dropped by 27%, and Juniors by 19%. This, coupled with the loss of four (4) major events, has significantly impacted our financial performance for the period. We are grateful to the Government via federal and state government support packages that have greatly aided the organisation.

Indeed, 2021/22 is not a year that any of us wish to relieve. We look forward to the next 12 months, one whereby we can celebrate the sport via recognition of the NSWTA's 50th Anniversary but also as a challenge to bring people back to the game. It's a challenge we are up for.

*"The human capacity for burden is like bamboo – far more flexible than you'd ever believe at first glance" - Jodi Picoult.*

**Dean Russell**

**BOARD**

Throughout the 2021/22 financial year, the Board conducted six (6) meetings as well as seven (7) ZOOM conferences/meetings.

Board Member	Board Meetings	Attended	Extraordinary Meetings	Attended
Mark Hearnden- President/Chair	6	6	5	5
Chris Dolahenty- Vice President	6	6	5	4
Rod Heatherington- Finance Director	6	6	5	4
Ian Matthew- Technical Director	6	6	5	5
Stuart Geros- Independent Director	2	2	1	1
Liz Jackson- Independent Director	6	5	5	5

Following the constitutional change at the 2021 AGM all Board roles were altered to Director roles. The role of Chair is elected by the Board.

On election to the TFA Board Stuart Geros had to resign from his independent Director role.

**FINANCE**

Finance Director, Rod Hetherington will cover in his report the performance of the organisation for the reporting period, and I would refer you to his remarks concerning this.

The management of the business through the La Nina effect and COVID-19 lockdowns was considerably assisted with the Government Support via grants, support packages and Jobkeeper. This has resulted in a profitable end of year position. However, as noted in the Finance Directors report, this was heavily reliant on the government support.

I would also acknowledge our Finance Director and Satya Puthi along with the Board for how they fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities on behalf of the membership in a trying period.

A measure of this is the key financial ratios of the organisation.

Measuring Stability.

Financial stability indicators can be obtained by examining reported financial statements using ratio analysis to express the relationship and interpretation of the reported information.

**Liquidity**

Current assets = 8.84 : 1

## Current liabilities

This indicator, often described as the current ratio, is the most common to determine an organisation's ability to meet short term debt. The analysis provided indicates that the NSWTA has \$8.84 in current assets to meet every \$1 in short term debt.

### **Solvency**

$\frac{\text{Total assets}}{\text{Total liabilities}} = 7.42 : 1$

This analysis, debt/solvency ratio, demonstrates that the NSWTA overall solvency and organisational robustness in that NSWTA have \$7.42 in current assets to meet every \$1 in debt for 2021/22.

This presents the organisation in a strong financial position. I would also note that the Regions were in an excellent financial situation at the years close.

### OFFICE OF SPORT and SPORT NSW

Once again, we must extend our thanks to both the Office of Sport and Sport NSW, for their support, guidance, stewardship, and advocacy especially through the COVID- 19 lockdowns. pandemic. Both organisations provided outstanding support and engaged with government on ours and all sports resulted in extended financial support for the sector. We must acknowledge the CEO of the Office of Sport Karen Jones, Chair of Sport NSW Caroline Campbell, and CEO Ross Bidencope for the work and leadership all undertook with their teams to support and protect the sports industry during the reporting period.

### AFFILIATE REGULATIONS

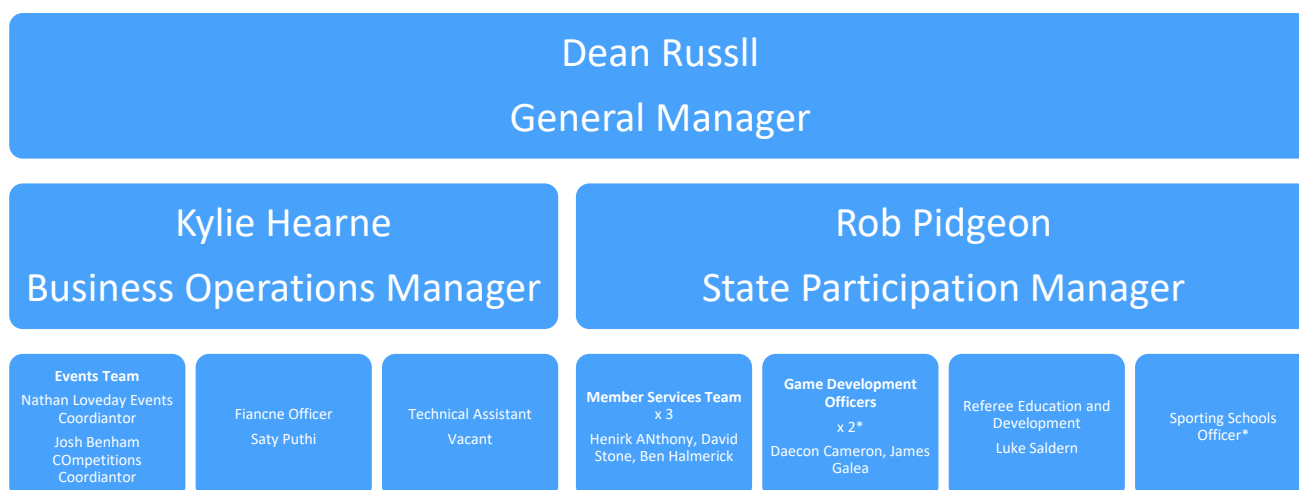
The current approved process is that fees must be paid prior to round two (2) of the competition with advice that insurance does not extend beyond round four (4) should fees not be paid. This is a positive for affiliates and their administrators to be on a position to be able to force people/teams to pay prior to taking the field.

Given this NSWTA has two (2) tiers.

- First compliance level is payment prior to the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) round of the competition as per the regulations. (discounted rate)
- Second compliance level is payment prior to the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) round of the competition as per the regulations. (normal rate)

### STAFF STRUCTURE

The NSWTA has the following structure at June 30, 2022;



***\* A GDO role was filled post period by Bailey Ibbot and Cynthia Jennings post period filled the Sporting Schools role.***

I would like to commend staff who again through the lockdown faced reduced hours. However, they still performed with a level of dedication and professionalism for the benefit of our members that was outstanding given the circumstances.

## **TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA**

The NSWTA has continued to work with the national body.

We have been pleased with the level of engagement TFA has had with the NSWTA in work on MySideline. The working relationship in this area is allowing for the voices of our affiliates to be heard and identifiable actions to address the needs and wants of the NSW Touch Football community in relation to the program. This process and engagement have seen great improvements in the program for the benefit of the members and we thank TFA for this work and development. NSWTA are represented on the National MSL Working Group by MSC Henrik Anthony who is the conduit for feedback, advice, and testing to ensure MSL is operationally ready for Affiliates. While it is always improving with various enhancements, we continue to encourage Affiliates to engage with your MSC for additional support and training. This can be conducted via zoom.

NSWTA while maintaining our working relationship with TFA, may not always agree with the national bodies' views on different issues. One of those situations arose in the period in relation to the National Touch League. TFA are investigating a move to the event being an affiliate team model and no longer a regional team event. The NSWTA is not supportive of this move and have advised TFA of our position. We also held meetings with our regional bodies through the period to discuss the issue. None of the NSW Regions are in favour. TFA formed a Working Group to investigate the best model for the NTL. At time of writing, we have not received the terms of reference for this working group.

We are also working with the national body on areas of the sport that can be of greater benefit to the members, the affiliates and both TFA and the state bodies. This project is in its infancy, but I am confident that if we can get it right it will be a positive for all. At time of writing, we cannot divulge the project but are hopeful in the not to distance future.

We would extend our thanks to Jamie O'Connor and his team for their support of NSWTA during the reporting period and look forward to continuing to work together for the benefit of the NSW membership.

We would also acknowledge and thank Greg Denny and his team at Queensland Touch Football. The relationship that has developed continues to go from strength to strength.

## **AFFILIATE SUPPORT**

### **Affiliate Servicing**

Another dynamic environment was presented with COVID lockdowns and wet weather affecting all levels of the sport and is covered in other reports. I would like to acknowledge the contribution that our staff made, despite the barriers, to do what was possible to support the sport especially when staff were on reduced hours for a period in 2021.

As the MSC's notched their second year in role, while the sport and society ground to a halt, the team were able to deliver the NSW awards on a virtual platform. With the return to sport in November and the easing of restrictions, our community was keen to get back on the park. Our MSCs played a significant role in ensuring that administrative processes were on track and support was provided, especially with MySideline.

### New Affiliated Competitions (2021/22)

During this period, there were no new competitions joining NSWTA affiliation, however there are several leads being explored.

Unfortunately, long standing Cammeray (Sydney Touch) Association stepped away from Affiliation at the end of S1, 2022

### Managed Competitions

During this period, there were no new competitions joining Commercial Affiliation model however all were retained in this period and there are several leads being explored.

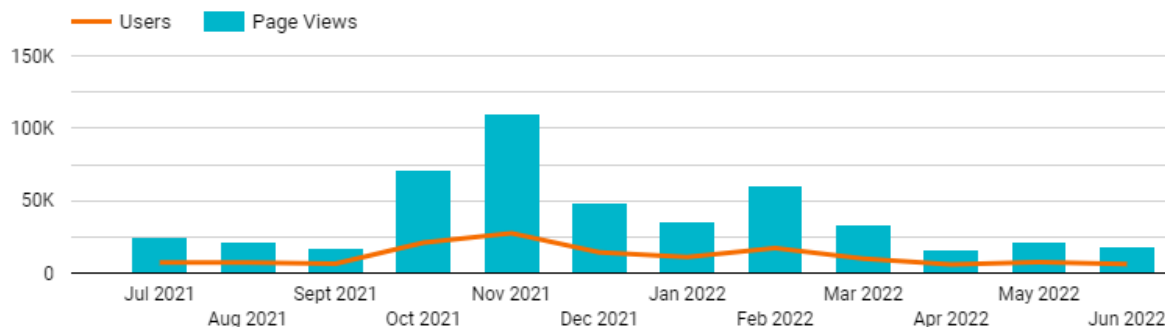
### Affiliate Websites Project

The Affiliate websites were launched on 1 July 2020 and this program has continued with several new websites rolled out in 2021-2022 mainly for late adopters. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the number of Affiliates utilising their sites due to time constraints and value perception with some opting out of annual the BooMedia hosting fee.

The objective is to continue to offer training and upskilling on a 1:1 basis with Affiliate administrators and encourage them to update the basic/static info prior to their competition registrations opening.

### Reporting for 1 July 2020 – 30 July 2021

#### Your audience at a glance



**Users peaked at 27,571 in November with 110,592 page views**

### STRATEGIC PLAN- TOUCH FOOTBALL 2024

During the period development of our Strategic Plan was approved and commenced from the beginning of the 2022. At the end of the period the following elements of the plan had been completed:

#### Support

**Digital Strategy-** Ensure that all NSWTA major events are livestreamed with commentary to a professional production standard

**Digital Strategy-** Develop annual digital communications plan (e.g. EDM, social media campaign, NSWTA app and NSWTA website network)

### *Grow*

[Participation Growth Strategy](#)- NSWTA Referee Development human resource.

### *Succeed*

[Performance Pathway Review](#)- Clear transparent communication for player, referee, coach, selector pathways

The following were in progress:

### *Support*

[Affiliate and Region Accelerator Program](#)- Develop and deliver simple governance guideline with constitutional and Annual General Meeting templates

[Coach, Referee and Selector Development Framework Review](#)- Review all NSWTA coach, referee and selector development programs and resources

### *Succeed*

[Performance Pathway Review](#)- Review NSWTA Pathways- referee, coach and selector

### *Foundations Projects*

[NSWTA Commercial Strategy](#)- Undertake full audit of NSWTA commercial properties and develop a Commercial Strategy.

[National Safe Sport and Intergity Framework](#)- Implement TFA's National Safe Sport and Integrity Framework in NSW.

## STATE CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Unfortunately for the second year in a row, the State Conference and Awards needed to be cancelled in their face-to-face format. The Awards were presented in an online format again, with Joel Caine as MC. The conference agenda was rolled forward to 2022.

Our 2021-22 Award winner will be announced at the Golden Jubilee and NSW Awards Dinner on October 29 and therefore can not be listed in this report.



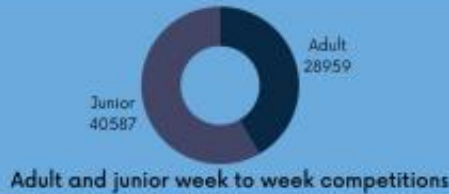
# PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS



NSW PARTICIPATION NUMBERS 2021-22

Data Source: TFA Participation report as 30 June 2022

## FULL ACTIVE MEMBERS



## EVENT PARTICIPANTS

16,940



## TEAM COMPARISON 2020/21 TO 2021/22



## SCHOOL DELIVERED PARTICIPANTS\*

21,520

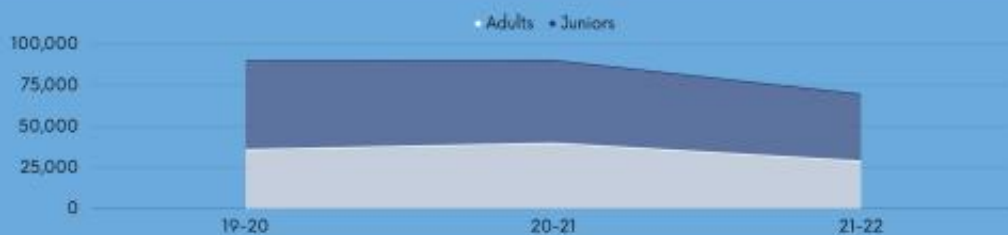


## SCHOOL MANAGED PARTICIPANTS\*

64,361



## 3 YEAR TREND - INDIVIDUAL FULL ACTIVE MEMBERS\*



## ACCREDITED VOLUNTEERS\*

729



## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS\*

552



173,648 TOTAL PARTICIPATION\*

\*Data from financial year 1 July to 30 June

## EVENTS

The representative environment in the COVID environment combined with La Nina had a dramatic effect on the NSWTA major events. Only two events of seven were able to be completed.

### Vawdon Cup in a Covid environment: -

Public Health Orders were in place for the Greater Sydney Region (including Central Coast, Blue Mountains, and Wollongong), and we assessed possible impacts on the commencement of the 2021 Vawdon Cup.

The current lockdown remained in place at the time of communication to all clubs in July. With the lockdown impacting all, particularly Affiliates and their preparations for the representative season, we needed to be aware of the effect on the affiliates and our members. Our planned commencement date was August 20.

Staff worked on options for what Vawdon Cup may look like once a return to community sport was allowed. In doing so, we engaged with the NSWTA High-Performance Unit (HPU) concerning acceptable timeframes for teams to prepare to commence a competition once the lockdown was lifted.

Information gathered from Affiliates during the lockdown period is that they would need four to five weeks to prepare. From this, we organised several options for playing a reduced event format.

As we continued along the timeline, different scenarios needed to be removed. Leaving a final solution, a weekend event for metropolitan affiliates only, on the first weekend of November.

Taking all into consideration, we made the difficult but responsible decision to cancel the 2021 Vawdon Cup.

### Country Championships in a Covid environment: -

As the COVID-19 situation remained in place across NSW, many of our regional affiliates remained in lockdown. Whilst the government was looking to reduce restrictions at 70% double vaccination rates, no mention had been made when planning what the return to community sport would look like. The current vaccination schedule would see their goal reached on October 18, after the Country Championships, which was scheduled for October 16-17.

With too many unknowns, it became clear that the safe and logical decision was to abandon the event. Even if the COVID-19 outlook improved in some regional areas, the fact is that the Country Championships require substantial travel within the state and with differing levels of restrictions that currently were in place, it would be impossible for us to proceed.

### State Cup: -

The decision was made in late November to postpone in 2021 State Cup.

A significant rain event impacted NSW and Queensland during the weeks leading into the State Cup, with staff working frantically to find a "solution."

Council contacted our office raising concerns about the conditions of the fields, resulting in our having to fly into Port Macquarie the following day for a field inspection with staff member David Stone, Port Macquarie Council and their groundsman who has over 30 years of experience preparing for the State Cup.

Upon inspecting the venue, it was immediately evident that it had reached saturation and would not recover in time for the State Cup. Surface water was not absorbed into the ground nor evaporated due to inclement weather.

An emergency Board meeting was held with the recommendation to postponed till March 25/26/27, 2022 as the only viable date for field availability, accommodation requirements and infrastructure availability.

Unfortunately, the rain event continued throughout the new year with the mid-north coast region receiving consistent rainfall since November 2021. The Tuffins Lane precinct had received over 900ml in that period.

In early March, Council advised that they have not been able to get mowers on the venue since February and indicated that with the amount of rain received over this extended period, there is a need for a minimum of five days of uninterrupted sunshine to dry the fields out to commence preparations for an event the size of the State Cup. The flow-on effect of this much rain was the total saturation of fields, and each further period of rain only added topping up the amount of water currently sitting on the fields and the softness of the grounds.

Since the cancellation of the Junior State Cup Northern Conference, we looked at investigated alternate venues across NSW that both had field and accommodation capacity with a view to a potential move of the State Cup with little luck.

The decision was made to cancel the State Cup with all members receiving refunds. The first time in the events 52-year history it had not gone ahead. While the organisation received considerable criticism for the decision, the weather event that occurred on the planned weekend, proved the decision correct as the event would not have been able to proceed.

[Junior State Cup: -](#)

[Southern Conference](#)

This year saw the Northern and Southern Junior State Cup Conference switch dates, being the Southern Conference in Wagga Wagga would start as the first major junior event.

A need to swap the dates allowed NSW Touch access to an extra 400 beds at the University, which we could offer to our Affiliates and house more Referees.

At the time of the event, there was no density limit to outdoor community sporting events under the current Public Health Order. However, as a state body, we advised our community that we have a responsibility to our membership to undertake a risk assessment and put in place a mitigation plan to limit the opportunity for transmission.

Feedback from our 2021 Arrive Play Leave format was used for this event, the difference from the 2021 event being that participants' parents and families would be able to move freely on the venue.

**Under 10 Girls** - Wagga Wagga 9 defeated Balmain Tigers 4

**Player of the Final** – Te-wai Kahuroa Wagga Wagga

**Under 10 Boys** - Penrith 5 defeated Wollongong Devils 0

**Player of the Final** – AJ Leatoupe Penrith

**Under 12 Boys** - Cronulla 13 v Balmain 4

**Player of the Final** – Coa Cooper Cronulla

**Under 12 Girls** - Wagga Wagga 7 defeated Cronulla 2

**Player of the Final** – Jaya Heffernan Wagga Wagga

**Under 14 Boys** - Hills Hornets 13 defeated Penrith 6

**Player of the Final** – Rhys Webster Hills Hornets

**Under 14 Girls** - Hills Hornets 16 defeated Balmain 15

**Player of the Final** – Shah Wakely Hill Hornets

**Under 16 Boys** - Western Suburbs 7 defeated Cronulla 2

**Player of the Final** – Daniel McMahon Western Suburbs.

**Under 16 Girls** - Hills Hornets 11 defeated Penrith 2

**Player of the Final** – Ava Jones Hills Hornets

**Under 18 Boys** - Parramatta 9 defeated Penrith 8.

**Player of the Final** – Vaviakila Rawali Parramatta

**Under 18 Girls** - Orange Thunder 13 defeated Wagga Wagga 6

**Player of the Final** – Josie Clarke Orange.



## CLUB CHAMPIONS

Hills Hornets – 121 points      Penrith – 107 points      Wagga Wagga – 98

## Northern Conference

The Port Macquarie region continued to be ravaged by the weather event that struck the east coast of NSW and Queensland. This weather event inundated the playing fields with significant rainfall on the Wednesday in the week leading into the event. The predicted 6-8ml was replaced with 56ml (the total predicted rain for the seven days). Further storms and showers continued to move through the area, intermitted with sunshine. This resulted in 270ml of precipitation from the Tuesday before 4 pm the Sunday of the planned JSC Nth. The impact has resulted in significant flooding affecting most fields.

The view of the experienced ground staff was that even without any further rain, it was likely that six fields would already be out of play. It was the view of NSWTA staff that the event be cancelled, and all registered members receive refunds.

## Junior Regionals: -

After an arduous 12 months where several of our major events had been cancelled due to either COVID-19 or severe weather events, our team were pleased and excited to be running the 2022 Junior Regionals at the Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreational Complex.

To be able to host an elite event and have our juniors' back playing sport was exciting, and to be able to host this event at such a fantastic facility was always going to make our return to play much more manageable.

**12 Girls:** West South West Suns 1 defeated Hunter Western Hornets 0

**Player of the Final:** Abbey Hunt - West South West Suns

**12 Boys:** Southern Rebels 2 defeated Sydney Scorpions 1

**Player of the Final:** Marshall Barlow Southern Rebels

**14 Girls:** Sydney Scorpions 5 defeated Sydney Mets 1

**Player of the Final:** Kelsey Berryman Sydney Scorpions

**14 Boys:** Sydney Mets 3 defeated Hunter Western Hornets

**Player of the Final:** Ryan Cloey, Sydney Mets

**16 Girls:** Sydney Scorpions 3 defeated West South West Suns 1

**Player of the Final:** Ava Jones, Sydney Scorpions

**16 Boys:** West South West Suns 6 defeated Sydney Scorpions 5

**Player of the Final:** Chase King West South West Suns

**18 Girls:** Sydney Scorpions 3 defeated West South West Suns 2

**Player of the Final:** Mackenzie Davis, Sydney Scorpions

**18 Boys:** Hunter Western Hornets 4 defeated Sydney Scorpions 2

**Player of the Final:** Will Eagleton Hunter Western Hornets

## Regional Championships

1st Sydney Scorpions 89pts

2nd West South West Suns 64pts

3rd Hunter Western Hornets 63pts

## DEVELOPMENT

From July 2020 to December, much of the school sporting landscape was changed with many schools 'closing' the doors to external persons. In November 2019, the Western Schools Cup was the first major development engagement able to be run by NSWTA, we are thankful to City of Orange Touch Association for their support of this event.

It was not until January 2021 onwards that school clinics and engagements began to resume, with the bulk of the engagement beginning after the NSWTA Majors of Junior State Cup were completed. We thank Parramatta TA for their assistance with the Year 11/12 Mixed Challenge held at the postponed date and transferred from Penrith TA due to field availability.

From COVID, the GDO team took a 'less but better' approach to the Years 7&8, 9&10s All Schools events. While the State Carnival as not able to get up due to the complexity and uncertainty for schools, the smaller events were also not always competitive or able to be run with small numbers. To resolve this, 6x "All Schools Carnival" for years 7, 8, 9 & 10 in a two-day format held in regional formats were developed and delivered. The first event being held on the Tuesday and Wednesday immediately after the Junior Regionals at the same venue of City of Orange Touch Association. Unfortunately, due to the timing of the Greater Sydney lockdown, the Far North Coast All Schools Event was suspended. In addition, all Primary School Gala Days from July to August were suspended. From June 2021 to December, much of the school sporting landscape was still in a state of uncertainty with many schools keeping the doors closed to external persons. Due to the varying nature of the schools' systems and individual schools within each system, GDOs engaged with schools where the doors were open.

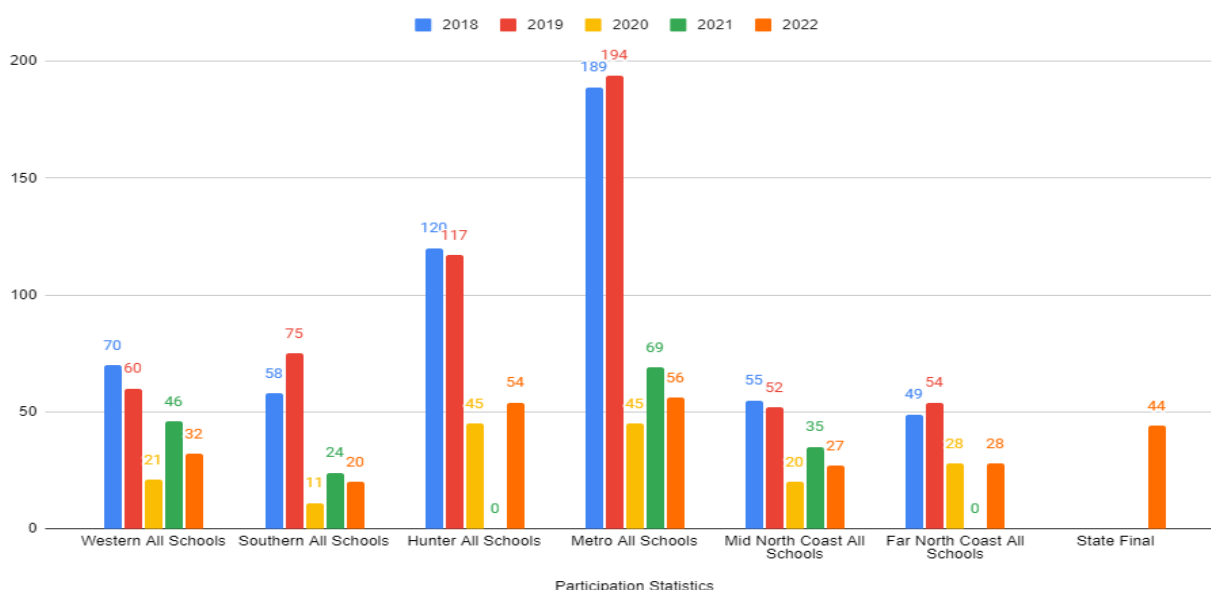
With 2022 tapping off, focus was on the NSWTA major events including the 2021 postponed State Cup slated for March reducing the ability to deliver in the school's environment. The GDO team were able to assist with school system trials/selections as available. Additionally, there was the ability to provide support to the Schools Inclusive Sport Unit to deliver several clinics, alongside other sporting codes.

The Year 11/12 Mixed Challenge was affected by rain and relocated to Waterworth Park, however tapped off the first major schools' engagement since 2019.

The 2022 All Schools revised format was a key deliverable with all 6 events and a State Final being completed. This saw regional events being run, with some locations experiencing touch football for the first time since 2019. Despite many weather challenges, this format proved popular with participating teams and may see additional regional events to service, some more geographically challenged schools.

At the time of this report, the 2022-23 Primary School Gala Day season has resumed for the first time since 2019 as schools become familiar with travel and interschool sport again. However, the constant rain is proving to be another challenge to overcome with many fields out of play.

### Participation Statistics



## Doordash First Try Touch Football Sporting Schools

Due to COVID-19 lockdowns, First Try programs were dramatically reduced in T3 & T4, 2021. Moving into 2022 saw T1 very low and then starting to show recovery in T2.



In Term 3, NSWTA led a discussion with Touch Football Australia, Queensland Touch Football and Aligned States to review the price of the program. As per the discussion, prices were increased from Term 4, 2022. This will allow the product to provide a more comparable pay rate for casual staff and importantly, allow States the financial resources to invest in training, program development and maintenance not currently provided for.

The sport is affected by a severe shortage of casual Touch Football Development Officers and will be a renewed focus for the Administration Officer in combination with the Game Development Officers.

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Term 3	36	43	27
Term 4	37	52	36
Term 1	21	37	12
Term 2	8	34	33
<b>Total FY</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>108</b>

### TECHNICAL

Before moving to the Etrainu platform, all courses were face-to-face, i.e. theory and practical, all done on the day, and you could not attend without producing a certificate component either prior or on the day.

We identified in the period that our data did not match with TFA. We were recording numbers based on those who attended (assuming they had completed the theory prior), whilst Touch Football Australia was recording based on completion, i.e. all online theory and face-to-face.

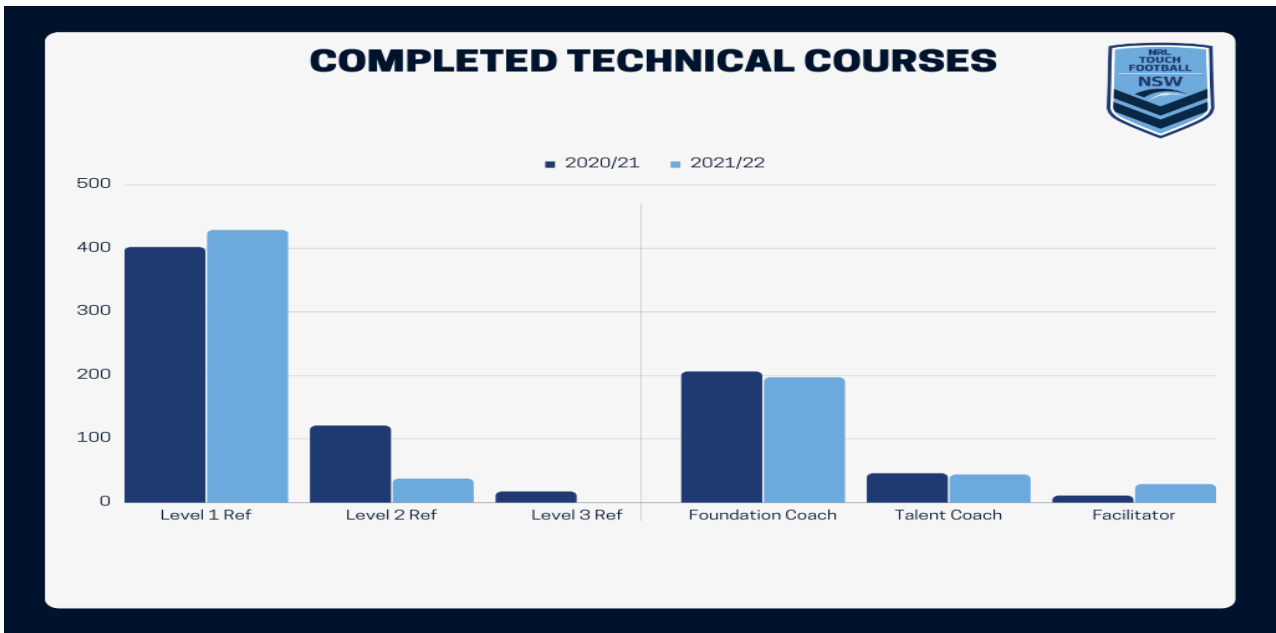
This identified an issue becoming a concern that our members were purchasing courses, booking in for the face-to-face but not completing the theory.

When auditing our Coaches for Junior State Cup, a pattern occurred whereby Coaches believed they were qualified as they sat face-to-face but were not going back online to complete their theory.

The system, in our eyes, had a fault. As the system allows candidates to skip a process?

The strain this placed on the office to notify our members was immense. We needed to advise that the system fault recognised that you had completed the face-to-face but needed to complete the theory to ensure you were qualified as an accredited Official.

We spoke to the Coaching Director, Tony Trad and James Sharp from TFA and worked with them to ensure that our Coaches were taking the correct steps to become accredited. By doing so, we changed the platform to ensure that once you purchased a course, you could no longer book and sit face-to-face until the theory components were completed. This would then ensure that our data reporting would be correct with the National Office.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

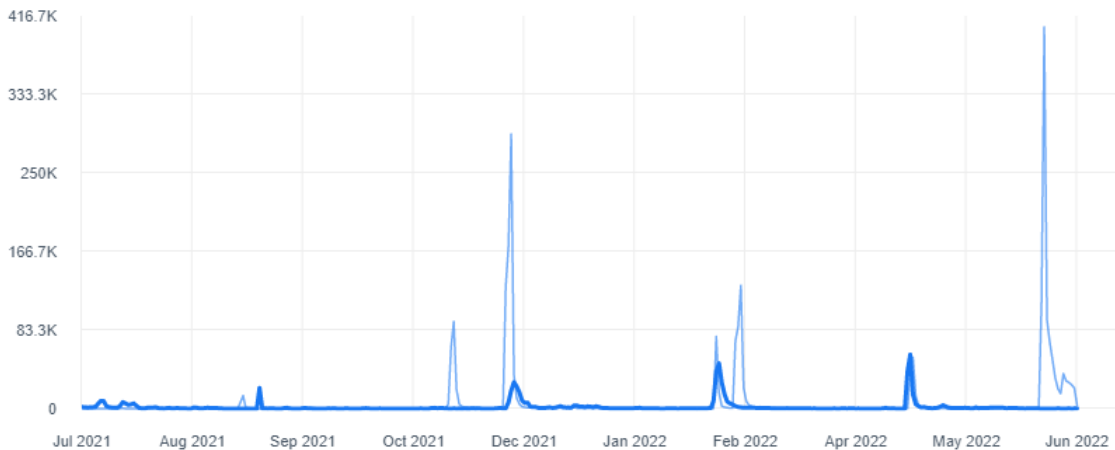
Considering we played no significant events last year and a summer and winter season impacted by weather, I believe our Social Media platforms coped remarkably well last year.

Yes, productivity outputs were well down in previous years, but we could keep our members engaged. Video content on all platforms, Youtube, Facebook and Instagram, still proved to be our best engagement source, with 16,700 people who reacted to, commented on or shared one of our videos.

## Minutes viewed

Jul 1, 2021 - Jun 30, 2022

**656,982** Minutes viewed **2,432,011** Previous period



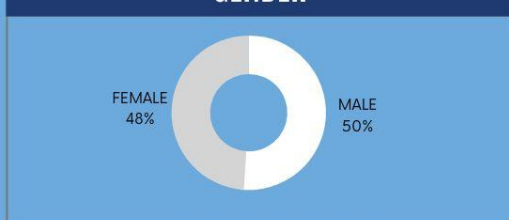


# SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS

## FACEBOOK



### GENDER



### FOLLOWERS

THE NUMBER OF UNIQUE ACCOUNTS THAT SAW ANY OF OUR POSTS OR STORIES AT LEAST ONCE

**25,980**

### NEW LIKES

THE NUMBER OF NEW LIKES OF OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

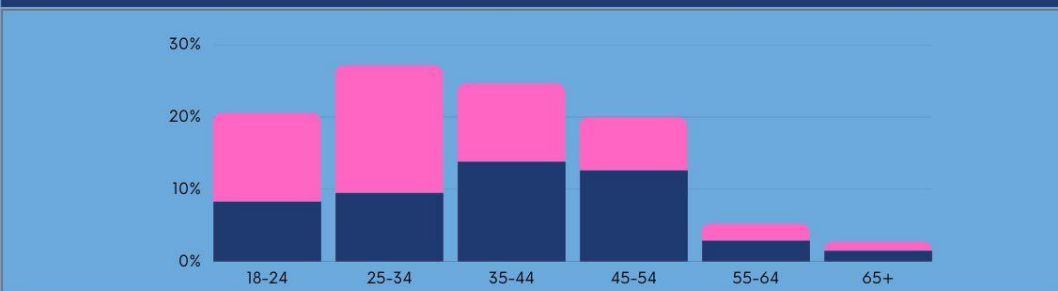
**1617**

### PAGE VISITS

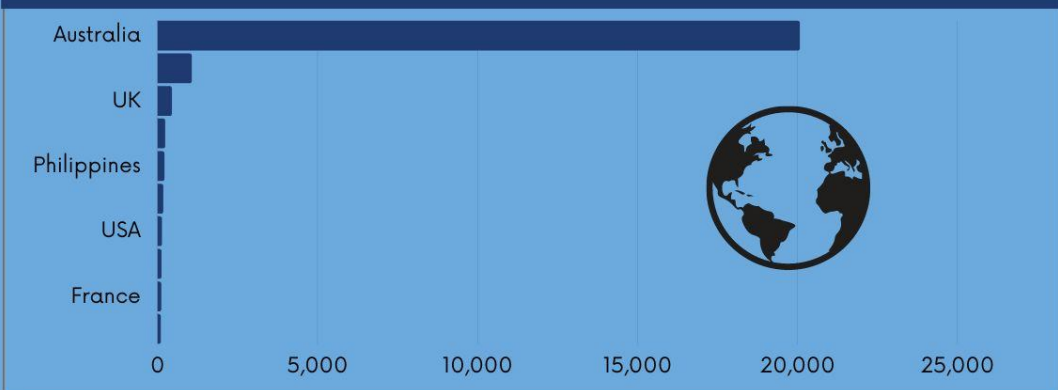
THE NUMBER OF TIMES OUR PAGE WAS VISITED

**87,283**

### AGE GROUP



### WHERE DO OUR FOLLOWERS COME FROM



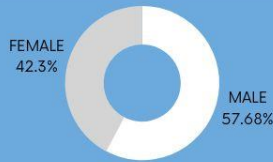
\*Data from financial year 1 July to 30 June



# SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS INSTAGRAM



## GENDER

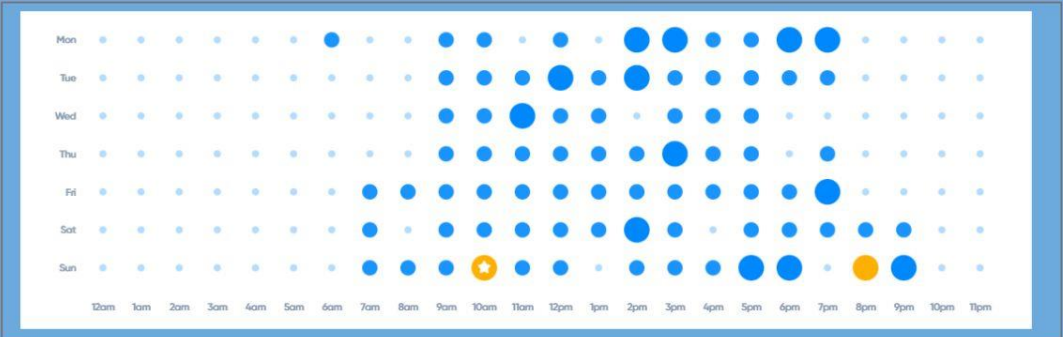


## FOLLOWERS

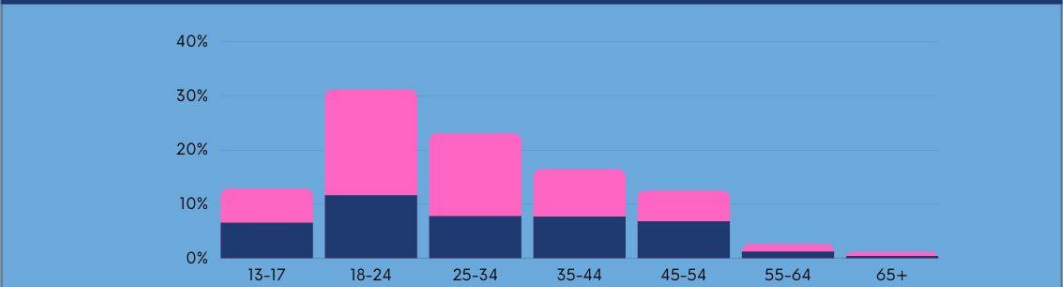
THE NUMBER OF UNIQUE ACCOUNTS THAT SAW ANY OF OUR POSTS OR STORIES AT LEAST ONCE

# 17,629

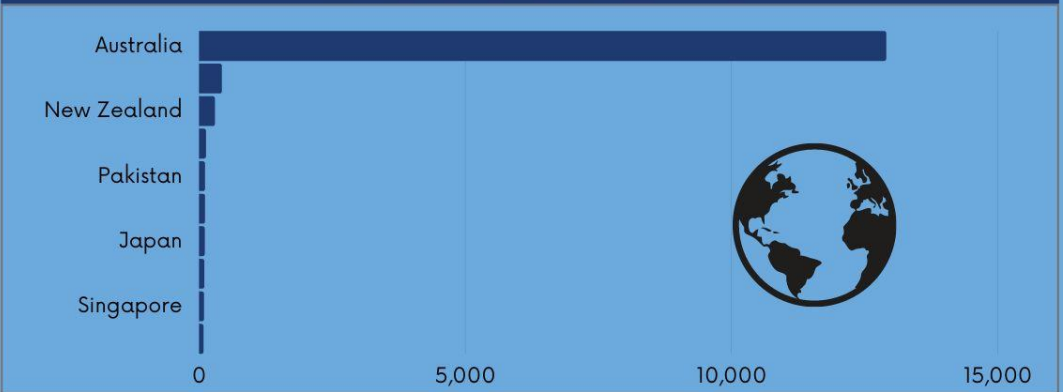
## BEST TIME TO POST



## AGE GROUP



## WHERE DO OUR FOLLOWERS COME FROM



\*Data from financial year 1 July to 30 June



## Referees Report

The 2021 through 2022 season has been challenging to say the least. With the weather conditions and COVID as a mix it has been difficult to get a lot of field time and slows down the practical assessment component of referring and we had to find other streams to ensure we keep forward direct.

However, we have managed to keep the momentum and educational process moving via zoom session.

We would prefer face-to-face teaching but it's all we had so we ran with it.

The sessions conducted included.

- A Referee Coach Development program. We also used the platform of this program to develop Referee Coaches across the country
- Regional Referee and Referee Coach sessions
- Four targeted sessions to assist referees through to a Level 4 Badge
- Six online sessions to our Youth Group

Female Referee Development continues to make headway and will see it's first "Her Sport, Her Way" sessions take place in September of this year.

### Tournaments

Because of the inclement weather conditions NSW had only 2 tournaments in the early part of the year being the Junior State Cup in Wagga and the Junior Regionals in May.

We were able to use the Junior Regionals as a "one off" Level 4 Upgrade and managed to get the below referees to Level 4 standard.

- |                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Paula Birch             | ▪ Harrison Lack    |
| ▪ Trisha Cortaville-Smith | ▪ Krystal Laughton |
| ▪ India Draper            | ▪ Xavier Lemusu    |
| ▪ Savannah Draper         | ▪ Peter Marks      |
| ▪ Taylor Draper           | ▪ Brendan Neville  |
| ▪ Clive Elks              | ▪ Jackie Obray     |
| ▪ Leon Gonzales           | ▪ Matthew Roberts  |
| ▪ Damon Hurst             | ▪ Johan Steyne     |
| ▪ Cooper Jones            | ▪ John Vu          |

Rebecca Rogers who received her upgrade in Western Australia was recognised as a NSWTA State Graded Referee for her contribution to this state.

Three days later, we were at the NTL in Coffs Harbour where more of our NSW Referees were upgraded to either a Level 5 or a Level 6 badge.

They are;

**Level 5**

Phillip Horwell  
Darren Lampard  
Kane Thorburn  
Caleb Walz  
Jason Whitney

**Level 6**

Clint Aplitt  
Lachlan Bradley  
Matt Bowcock  
Craig Carmody  
Charlie Cheesley  
Matthew Cooper  
Mahonri Moana  
Steven Naumovski  
Samuel Piper  
Atikah Scott

The overall number of upgrades

**NSWTA** 15

**QTF** 8

**Other States** 5

**State of Origin Selections from NSW were: -**

- David Baggio
- Phillip Balcombe
- Victor Baptista
- Emma Bleasdale
- Tony Calabria
- John Clark
- Mason Colwell
- Amanda Draper
- John Frost
- Daniel Kustec
- Tess Leahy
- Greg Myers
- Barry Nichols
- Steve Pike
- Chris Reynolds
- Rebecca Rogers
- Brandon Sanderson
- Alanah Sinclair
- Kim Sinclair
- Kim Skelly
- Anthony Smith
- Ryan Wake
- Rachel Whiteside
- Sam Whiteside

Members of the NSWTA Referee Coaching Panel continue to impress with the ongoing commitment to the develop of referees and referee coaches through this State, around the country and across the globe.

Many of them have been instrumental in the development of referee platforms and systems that have seen NSW being recognised as the most progressive group of referee personnel. The impact of this group cannot be understated.

**Ian Matthew**





## SELECTORS REPORT

Many challenges were encountered by our sport as a direct result of the COVID pandemic and unprecedented weather events. The Country Championships, Vawdon Cup and State Cup were all impacted.

In February 2022 the Peter Wilson Championships and Hornets Final selections took place and Hornets invited several State Selectors to assist in selections.

It was announced in May 2022 that a Women's 50s team would participate at State of Origin for the first time. With very little time, the Selector's Panel devised a process (approved by NSWTA Executive) to select a Women's 50s team without impacting the Women's 45s while, at the same time, giving an opportunity to a variety of players who.

- Participated at the NTL in any division while eligible for Women's 50s
- Were unable to attend the 2022 NTL
- May have participated at the 2022 NTL had they known a Women's 50s team was to be selected.

The selection teams for all SOO Divisions were:

**Men's Open:** Tim Kitchingham (Team Leader), Joel Willoughby (C), Geoff Thornton and John Wilton

**Men's 20s:** Tim Kitchingham (Team Leader), David Stone (C), Geoff Thornton and John Wilton

**Women's Open:** Jim Randall (TL), Paul Sfier (C) and Anette Coleman.

**Women's 20s:** Jim Randall (TL), Matt Scranage (C) and Anette Coleman.

**Mixed Open:** Geoff Thornton (TL), Karley Banks (C) and Anette Coleman.

**SNR MX:** Geoff Thornton (TL), Manu Wakely (C) and Anette Coleman

**Men's 30s:** Don Green (TL), Jason Martin (C) and Lyle Barnwell

**Men's 35:** Don Green (TL), Ricky Heatherington (C), and Lyle Barnwell

**Women's 27s:** Sue Hensley (TL), (C) John Dalton (C) and Belinda Holt

**Women's 35's:** Sue Hensley (TL), Christian Browne (C) and Belinda Holt

**Men's 40's:** Michael Clark (TL), Michael McDonald (C) and Dilani Blundell

**Men's 45's:** Michael Clark (TL), Pat Batiste (C) and Dilani Blundell

**Women's 40's:** Kylie Wilkinson (TL), Edith Nathan (C) and Loretta Donovan

**Women's 45's:** Kylie Wilkinson, Graham Fleming (C) and Loretta Donovan

**Men's 50s:** Bob Monkley (TL), Paul Krahe (C) and Brett Jones

**Men's 55's:** Bob Monkley (TL), Bruce Ager (C) and Brett Jones

**Men's 60's:** Bob Monkley (TL), Keith Rozairo (C) and Brett Jones

**Women's 50's:** Dilani Blundell (TL), Carol Jones (C) and Rob Cooper

Having the Feedback Request form on the web, has proved to be extremely useful. It is not possible to have notes on every player who participates at every tournament. Having said that, the quality of notetaking and provision of feedback by selectors continues to improve in both quality and the number of players assessed.

Continuous education has replaced periodic courses. The process now includes

- Ongoing education sessions
- On-the-Job training
- Mentoring
- A clear career-path

Coaching Director, Tony Trad and a group of highly proficient coaches are very much a part of this process.

The Junior Regionals were held at Tuggerah on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Selectors supported the Tournament and Merit teams were selected. An emphasis on one-on-one education achieved good results with our newest selectors. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of those selectors who also attended the NTL one week later. It was a very quick turnaround for some selectors to attend NTL the following week.

At the NTL on May 5<sup>th</sup>, we commenced the tournament with an education session by one of our most successful coaches, Christian Frost who provided a very informative session. All selectors attended, (including some who were playing for their region rather than selecting at the event) and I am sure all left the room having learnt a great deal. A good start to our NTL campaign. We thank Dean for the Dinner supplied prior to the meeting

The initiative of using Annette Thomas Schumacher in an administrative role, worked very well and the Panel believed it will take a bit of the workload off the Team Leaders and provide better security and version control over the Living Document. She showed all Team Leaders at NTL how the new enhancements to the system would work.

The selectors worked well with their Coaches, and together we were able to come up with very strong squads in readiness for State of Origin 2022 despite challenges mentioned earlier. Ratification of Squads was carried out at NTL due to time constraints.

Final State of Origin trials, held in Sydney (at various locations) on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, Sat 28<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, were well attended despite the weather conditions.

Ratification of Final teams was held at Penrith with Team Leaders acquitting themselves well.

Several State Selectors assisted at the CCC trials held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at Tempe.

Allan Davis was honored by NSWTA as 2021 Selector of the Year.

I would like to thank my Panel, particularly Michael Clark and Don Green, for all the help and advice given through this difficult time.

A huge thank you also to Ian Matthew who has been invaluable to me and always willing to guide and assist the Selectors.

For your constant support also, thank you to our President Mark Hearndon, Chris Dolahenty, Liz Jackson, Stuart Geros and Treasurer Rod Hetherington.

Congratulations must also go to Dean Russell and all Staff at NSWTA and to the Board for keeping our Affiliates and players aware of all things surrounding the Pandemic and keeping our sport alive.

**Fran Hanson**



## COACHING REPORT

### State Of Origin

The 2022 SOO series is scheduled to be played in August in Coffs Harbour. In preparation for this series there was a strong focus on Coach support as well as creating new opportunities for new coaches, continuing the progress made re the culture of “Team NSW” and retaining the SOO after the success 2021. Most incumbent Coaches had been reappointed and were asked to give their opinions on what their individual team required re Camps and Training venues. NSWTA took the position of providing support by via resources such as Training venue and medical as well as allow the coaches the flexibility to do what they need to do for their own team to ensure continued success. Selectors were also provided education with SOO Coaches attending Selectors workshops and providing insights on trends of the game. This year Men’s Open Coach Joel Willoughby attended a session at the NTL. Squads were selected with great cooperation between Coaches and Selectors and again at Ratification NSWTA took the position of supporting the Coach with the attitude of “Own your Team, Own you Preparation and Own your result”. We have been successful over several years instilling the “Team NSW” ethos. Our Culture and sense of “Team NSW” has most definitely developed and the relationships between selectors and Coaches continues to grow strong with little to no conflict during the selection process.

Unfortunately, due to the weather and floods Our first compulsory camp was washed out. Finding Training venues to prepare for this campaign has been difficult for the same reasons.

There has been a focus on reclaiming supremacy in the Power Divisions after only winning the Mixed Open and Womens 20’s in the 2021 series. In 2021 NSW lost the Power Divisions 3 to 2 and whilst the goal continues to be to retain the Origin Shield dominating the Power Divisions is an important factor in NSW supremacy.

### NYC

In 2021 NSW Permits and School teams did not attend the NYC due to Covid restrictions requiring the Queensland Border to be closed. It appears that in 2022 attendance will be allowed and Permits are looking to attend in Lieu of the NSWTA Development Team.

### “TOUCH FOOTBALL HER WAY”

NSWTA have launched the “Touch Football Her Way” program. We have been able to gain funding for this program and have identified 6 Female Coaches that we feel suit the category needed for a pilot program. These coaches are Melissa Mitchell, Teroha Paki, Edith Nathan, Natalie Little and Carol Jones. The program is led by experienced Mentors Karley

Banks and Tony Trad. The program focuses on the skills and tools needed to allow the participants to step up and excel in the Elite Coaching arena. Participants are educated in critical competencies and Topics including but not limited to Touch IQ, Leadership, Team Dynamics, and the Application Process.

### **NSWTA CONFERENCE**

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 restrictions the NSWTA Conference was cancelled in 2021. However, plans are already under way for the 2022 Conference where once again the Coaching arm will be active in education and presentation.

### **STRATEGIC MEASURES**

#### **3.H**

#### **Have a strong and supportive structure to support all coaching needs**

NSWTA have identified new and passionate coaches through TID at Tournament level and at Coach Education level. These coaches have been given support and opportunities through the various tournaments available such as , NTL and SOO. These coaches have a " Team First " Ethos and have bought into the "Team NSW" culture. As our coaches continue to gain much experience, they will develop even further so we must continue to seek opportunities for them and challenge them to be better.

NSWTA continue to run the Foundation and Talent coaching courses regularly throughout the state with a focus on educating and up skilling coaches of all levels. These courses also allow us to TID future coaches at Grass Roots and Elite Level. NSWTA have taken the stance that we are prepared to reach out to affiliates and hold courses in their area if they can supply a minimum of 6 participants. This means greater education and accreditation and less burden on potential coaches having to travel to allocated course locations.

### **SUMMATION**

The last 12 months have proven to be extremely difficult and challenging with not only Covid-19 but the consistent Rain which has resulted in flooding and many Tournaments and training opportunities washed away. Our "Team NSW" culture is stronger than ever and is now the corner stone of everything we do. This has resulted in better on field results culminating in good "Buy in" when planning and winning the 2022 SOO series. I feel we have had excellent progress and great success with a collaborative approach between coaches and Selectors. There has been greater buy in from coaches across the State at all levels and as they are given greater opportunity they are rising to the top with a better attitude and team ethos.

We are succeeding in developing a group of innovative and strong new coaches who can take the sport in this state to a new level. Opportunities have been afforded to these coaches at all levels possible during an interrupted Touch season.

NSWTA have now set their sights on developing a stronger Female Coach presence in our sport at the Elite Level. With the development and launch of the “Touch Football Her way” program. This will no doubt assist Female coaches to make the transition from Talent to Elite status not just in accreditation but in education with a view of seeing their numbers grow and reflected in appointments in the High-Performance coaching areas.

**Tony Trad**

## 2021/22 OVERVIEW



The 2021/22 year started with the long-awaited boundary realignment and a change from Southern Suns to West Southwest Suns. With our 2021 AGM well attended we filled all executive and technical arm roles for the first time in many years.

While we said farewell to some, our incoming affiliates have reinvigorated the “new” Suns region with notable optimism and positivity. This was particularly evident at the Junior State Cup Southern Conference held in Wagga Wagga with larger Suns affiliates performing well and increased participation from our developing affiliates.

This also led to greatly improved results at the 2022 Junior Regional Championships and National Touch League. Increased participation and improved results at the junior level will need to be sustained in order to flow through to seniors. While our senior ranks are improving in team numbers and quality, we still have some work to do.

Our technical arms had a very busy 2021/22 with enhanced activity across the board, which will serve us well for years to come.

This year saw the departure of two very long serving and hard-working Board members in Raeleen Honeysett and Kaylene Price. Both Raeleen and Kaylene served Suns for many years and were a consistent presence at many JRC’s and NTL’s. Their care for players, in particular our juniors, and their passion for touch football will be sorely missed.

Suns would like to thank NSW Touch for their ongoing support and the other NSW regions for their collegiate approach the progressing representative touch football in the state.

## FINANCE

WSW Suns bank balance was \$21,357.49 as of 30 June 2022 with outstanding Debtors of \$15,274.45; \$3,627.00 of debtor’s balance being outstanding 2021 NSWTA Junior Regional Championship levies and uniform purchases (currently being reviewed) and a further \$9,642.45 being 4th Qtr.

### **FY22 budget claims with NSWTA.**

Suns fully expended the budgeted claim amount available from NSWTA for FY2022. Suns was also appreciative of the goodwill / one-off payment made by NSWTA of non-claimed budgeted funds for FY2021.

During the Financial year period WSW Suns operations resulted in a surplus of \$9,987.31, this figure does not include allowance for depreciation over the period.

The new regional boundary for WSW Suns has bought additional personnel on board which has helped in the running of the Region as all committee positions were filled at the FY2021 AGM. Continued cost rises and cost of living pressures need to continually be monitored and

evaluated so that Suns can continue to operate as a Region and allow individuals to be involved in the sport of Touch Football moving forward.

The distances between WSW Suns Executives and volunteers makes undertaking the Association's operation difficult at times but those involved manage to resolve and work through scenarios, either via countless email communications, text messages and zoom meetings or chats whilst attending Tournaments.

NSWTA's new online budgeted claims spreadsheet should allow better processing of claims and easier transparency for documentation handling, along with knowing the current balance of budgeted claims.

## **TECHNICAL**

The past 12 months has seen a period of change for the Suns region, with the NSWTA boundary changes. With this we said farewell to some of our affiliates, but we also welcomed new affiliates into the Suns family. The boundary changes have seen some additional members join our Suns committee and technical arms, where these new members have aligned and worked seamlessly with the remaining Suns committee and technical arm members.

The newly formed committee and technical arm were initially focused on developing a transparent and thorough process to conduct our business, including nomination and selection of representative coaching staff, nomination and selection of representative players which includes a collaborative effort from coaching staff and selectors working together, as well as selection of referees for representative events. Our focus on proper processes is on-going, and our region wants to conduct business in a transparent and effective manner to allow all our affiliates and their members the opportunity to develop in the sport of touch football.

Further to this, a focus on technical development has been another key indicator for our region over the past 12 months, with our technical arm directors tasked with liaising with our affiliates to offer their assistance, conduct technical courses and workshops where required. This technical development focus is on-going, and our region believes this will lead to all our affiliates improving and development their technical members (coaches, referees, selectors) which will lead to better affiliate outcomes overall.

The above implementations, along with the dedication of our Suns committee, technical arm members, coaching staff, referees, selectors, and other individuals, has seen our region already achieve some positive outcomes in the first year of our new regional alignment.

Our region sent 4 teams to the 2022 National Touch League, with these teams performing exceptionally well. Our Women's Open, Men's 20s and Men's 60s all reached the finals stages of the tournament, and we hope to improve on these performances in 2023.

We also sent a full complement of teams to the 2022 Junior Regional Championships, where all our junior teams enjoyed their experience and this enjoyment led to some positive results. Of the 8 teams involved, 4 of these reached the Grand Final, with our U12 Girls and U16 Boys



being crowned Champions of their division. Our region also placed 2nd in the Club Championship for this event and a total of 19 players were named in the NSWTA Merit Teams.

Firstly, I'd like to thank Dean Russell and his staff at NSWTA, along with the NSWTA Board and Directors for their assistance and support of our region over the past 12 months, in particular in relation to our boundary adjustment.

I'd like to thank Evan Robertson and all the Suns Executive and Committee for their continued dedication they put into the running of touch football within the region. Without all your hard work, our affiliates and members would not have the opportunity to develop and flourish in the sport.

A special mention to the three technical arm directors – Alistaire Thompson (Coaches), Garry Foster (Referees) and Greg Smith (Selectors) for all their assistance and support throughout the past 12 months, as without your involvement our technical arms would not be developing as well as they currently are. Along with the above three people, I'd like to acknowledge Blake Richards, Don Green and Annette Thomas-Schumacher for their dedication to their respective arms and their assistance to our technical arm directors.

My final thank you goes to all our affiliate and regional coaching staff, referees, and selectors for all they contribute to the sport. Regardless of if your assistance is simply at your affiliate or if it extends to our region, without your involvement the sport of touch football does not exist in our region and the players don't have the opportunity to enjoy playing the sport.

I believe it has been a very positive initial 12 months for the newly aligned Suns region and it is an exciting time to be part of the Suns touch family and our future is very bright as we strive to develop together.

### **Coaching**

It's been exiting and a new challenge taking this role but as a region we have gone so far in only 12 months.

We had many enthusiastic applicants to coach at the Junior Regionals Championships which was great, and I think all our coaches did a remarkable job with their teams as either Coach, assistant or manger. All coaches where very professional pre JRC at selection carnivals and final selections in Yass.

All affiliates have been great to work with in organizing previous and current coaching courses from level 1 and level 2 courses.

I think all areas have worked well together from coaching, selecting to refereeing and this was demonstrated from success at Junior Regionals finishing in the regional championship points as well as NTL's.

The region has been identifying clubs and people to target to help develop and grow or region in regards to coaching courses and also developing younger coaches which has already shown a great response.

Thanks to the Suns Board for your support, and in particular Joel Begnell and Evan Robertson for their amazing work.

## **Selecting**

We are pleased to provide the first selectors report for our new WSW Suns following the alteration to our geographical boundaries in 2021. Our first season has been very exciting with the new affiliates that have joined our region which has provided an abundance of new players both seniors and juniors as well as Coaches, Managers and Selectors

This year Sun's changed our selection process for our Junior Regional teams with our selection process conducted over the Gala Day in Wagga over the weekend of 29-30 January 2022, Junior State Cup and the final day in Yass on 27 February 2022. From these three weekends we were able to select very strong teams in all 8 age divisions

WSW Suns much improved tournament success is detailed in the below Tournament and Achievements section.

This year has seen a number of changes to our region with the alteration to our boundaries and a name change, as well as a change in uniform design, however it has made WSW Suns a very strong region and there will be many great moments moving forward

It is a pleasure to see our selector numbers increase and we sincerely thank the following people Annette Thomas-Schumacher, Don Green, Noel Huggett, Sue McGrath, Graham Blackhall, Alistaire Thompson, Joel Begnell, Kylie Jordan, Wayne Hill, Evan Robertson and Reg Walker

It is a pleasure being part of the Suns Committee, thanks to Evan, Nick, Joel, Alistaire, Bear and Blake for all your great work over the past twelve months and I am looking forward to continuing working with a great committee

To all players, thank you all for your contribution on and off the field and the manner you represent the Suns and we look forward to seeing you all again in future years.

A very big thank you to all parents who cover many kilometres over the year getting our junior players to our selection trials, to Junior State Cup, our training runs and finally to the Junior Regional Carnival.

## **Referees**

The development of our Referee Arm has been moving forward despite challenges presented by the realignment of the regions and logistics.

The first challenge was to get people to attend courses educating themselves as Course Facilitators and Referee Coaches. We achieved moderate success in that area with Blake Richards qualifying both as a Facilitator and Foundation Referee Coach moving on to Talent Referee Coach. We also accredited four more Facilitators and Foundation Referee Coaches, thanks to the efforts of Craig Thomas-Schumacher. A Leadership Group was established informally to build up mentoring numbers for our emerging referees. Also, a formal Suns Referee Coaching Panel consisting of Blake Richards, Garry Foster, Rebecca Rogers, Chris

Reynolds, Dave Baggio, Charley Cheesley and Steve Pike has been appointed. We are also supported by NSW State Panel members Chris Dolahenty and Craig Thomas-Schumacher.

Level One Badge Courses in the region number at twelve over the past two years, then five Level Two courses which include those run on the eve of JSC in Wagga. Two Level Three Courses were also run on the eve of JSC in Wagga.

It will be two to three years before we can catch up to where we need to be with our development, but rest assured it is evolving toward our goal. The NSWTA Referee Recruitment and Retention Workshop that I attended was both educational and inspiring and I would like to acknowledge Ian Matthew, Dean Russell and Luke Saldern for their drive putting this much needed innovation into practice.

We have also identified people at Bathurst, Gundagai, Yass, Young, Temora and West Wyalong to move through the process of qualifying as Course Facilitators and Referee Coaches to advance referee development at their Affiliates and thus our region.

I would like to thank the Suns Board for your support, and in particular Joel Begg and Blake Richards for their enthusiasm, and encouraging me in my endeavours to put Suns Referees back on top of the Regional ranks in NSW.

## **TOURNAMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Junior Regional Championships**

Congratulations to all Managers, Coaches and players associated with our junior teams with Suns having their best carnival with four teams 12 Girls, 16 Girls, 16 Boys and 18 Girls all making the Grand Finals. All teams gave it their all with our Under 16 Boys and Under 12 Girls running out winners and the other two teams losing in very tight games. From the grand finals Abbey Hunt from our Under 12 Girls and Chayse King Under 16 Boys won the best players on the field award

Our success at the Junior Regionals was evident with a record number of players selected in the NSW Merit Teams. In all Suns had 19 players selected, congratulations to all players listed below:

12 Girls: Halle Baggio, April Gardiner, Abbey Hunt, Andie Pieper, Mary Dal Broi, Armahni Cook

14 Boys: Taj Jordan

16 Girls: Lilly Clarke, Holly Williams, Demi Owen

16 Boys: Jack Dean, Murray Beer, Jackson Allen, Mitchell French, Chayse King

18 Girls: Caitlyn Prestwidge, Hailey Prestwidge, Claudia Wheatley, Josie Clarke

To cap off a great junior regionals Suns finished 2nd overall behind the very strong Sydney Scorpions in the Regional Championships which is a great result for our region.

### **National Touch League**

Thanks to Joel and Evan together with each of the Coaches, Managers and all our players that helped put together four teams to participate in the NTL's. In a very strong competition, our teams did Suns proud giving 100 % effort across the weekend with two of our teams Men's 20's and Men's 60's making it to the semi-finals. Our Women's open team made the quarter finals and while our Women's 20's did not make the finals they had some good results in the round games. Both teams should be very proud of their efforts as they were very young teams.

Evan Robertson



## OVERVIEW

Southern Rebels had many changes in 2022, and so many people to thank for their efforts.

In 2022 was our first year of the new boundary changes and growing to 25 affiliates in the Southern Rebels region. This new name changes and area change spreading from the Eastern suburbs of Vacluse, all the way down the south coast to Milton Ulladulla and as far west as Goulburn.

With the new area, this brought in many new players into our pathways, and also new people in our coaching ranks and officials.

Finally after a couple of interrupted seasons of touch, it was nice to get players back on the park and have touch tournaments.

First of all, I would again like to thank Les Bouveng for all his efforts with Rebels over the last 25 year in the chair. It's been big shoes to fill in my first year in the chair, but it has been great to still have Les in the administrative role to learn and work along side of.

To Manu Wakely our technical director, no one is more passionate about Rebels then Manu. We thank him for his efforts. And Jason Say in Finance. As always, a very professional in the role.

To Greg Meyers who is doing a great job with developing our referees, thank you. Kylie Wilkinson working and developing our selectors and bringing new selectors into our region, we appreciate your hard work. Keith Rozairo our coaching coordinator, working and giving his time towards coaching and development. Thank you. And Brad Lugg, working with our junior development and pathways. Much appreciated.

With NTLs set to go ahead in March of 2022, Southern Rebels look set to take away a record amount of 10 teams to Coffs Harbour. The weather in March in Coffs thought otherwise. With another touch football disruption, the date was then changed May, still at the same venue. With the change of date this then meant Southern Rebels had 8 teams to represent to new name for the first time. We took teams away to compete in Men's and Women's opens, mixed opens, senior mixed, women's 27, men's 20s, the old boys in the men's 50s, and off course our all-conquering All Abilities mixed team.

All players representing southern rebels with passion and professionalism. The highlight for me was the All Abilities team winning there division, and the way the whole Region supported this team throughout their journey. At the grand final I got to see grown men cry. Shows what sport is all about.

Thank you all to the players, coaching staff, and officials that gave up there time to make this event a success for Rebels.

After only 2 days rest after NTLs, it was time to pack the car up again and head north again to Tuggerah sporting complex, where we had 8 junior teams represent Southern Rebels in the junior regional's. Both boys and girls in the under 12s, 14s, 16s, and 18s. A lot of new players wearing our colours for the first time and the 12s boys, 12s girls and 16s boys making the playoffs. Congratulations to Coach Nathan Fien and the 12s boys on winning their division, a fantastic effort by all, and a bright future.

I would like to thank the parents of the players from these junior teams, as without you buying in and making the effort for your son or daughter, this event doesn't happen. Many thanks to all the coaches, managers, assistant coaches and officials that were involved in this event, it was very enjoyable.

Congratulations and good luck to our 12s boys and 12 girls, going away to compete in the NYC tournament at Caloundra in October to compete against teams from interstate.

To all the volunteers, officials, and players from all 25 Southern Rebels affiliates, I really appreciate your hard work and efforts you put into the sport we all know and love, touch football. From park comps, all the way through to representative touch, I thank you, and your time, it doesn't go unnoticed.

To the NSW Touch Board, and Dean Russell and the staff from NSW touch always a pleasure working alongside you.

Thank you to my family, letting me have the time to put into something I really enjoy. Looking forward to 2023 and many more successful years for Southern Rebels.  
Yours in touch.

**Clayton Blackman**



I will begin with asking; who would have thought that after two years of enduring the Covid-19 pandemic that I would be reporting on another year of interrupted operations. But here we are. Activities throughout 2021/22 again experienced operational issues with Covid-19, and then add to that, the weather Gods threw their hands into the mix, and totally disrupted team preparations for the NTL and NSWTA Jnr Regionals in 2022. I am certain the frustrations experienced by the Mets Executive though, paled in significance to that of players, parents and coaching staff for those teams. All of that said, amazingly, our teams did compete at the NTL and Jnr Regionals, and they all did us proud.

Despite the Covid and weather issues experienced over the last 12 months, it is fair to say that the Sydney Mets Region achieved its objectives over the last 12 months, albeit we held higher expectations with respect to some on-field results. As in past years, our teams managed to compete at the major events on the calendar, these being;

- The 2022 NSWTA Jnr Regionals and
- The 2022 NTL.

Further to that, and most pleasingly, the Region managed to hold three Jnr Gala Days at Penrith, Parramatta and Balmain. While team numbers attending the events were still somewhat restricted by Covid, it was good to be able to see our kids enjoying the sport of Touch again.

The financial position of the Region as at 30 June 2022 is, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, stronger than in previous years, and suffice to say, is in a very strong position. I will provide further detail with respect to that in the Finance report below.

Operationally, as mentioned above, we managed to get 3 Gala Days in. In past years, Mets have controlled the Gala Days as being part of the selection process for the selection of Jnr Regional teams. Moving forward, the plan has been to allow the affiliates to run their own Gala Days and the Mets Executive will make a determination as to which Gala Days are deemed 'compulsory attendance' for Mets Affiliated teams. This is needed for Jnr Regional selection purposes, as identified Gala Days form part of the selection process for Jnr Regionals. In 2021/22 it was determined that the Penrith and Parramatta Gala Days were compulsory attendance. This situation will be reviewed and will change each year. Once the 'compulsory attendance' Gala Days are determined, the appointed Selectors to the various

divisions will be factored in. With the easing of Covid restrictions, it is anticipated that the size of our Gala Days will increase significantly, and will get back to team number sizes experienced pre-Covid. This will ultimately make it an even more enjoyable and more competitive experience for our juniors.

The Mets Executive is hopeful that during the 2022/23 period we will be able to put on extra events for our Jnr Development programs to make up for the loss of events over the past couple of years. Planning is currently underway to address that initiative.

Over all though, the Region finished the 2021/22 period in excellent shape and we look forward to an energetic and successful year ahead.

In closing, I would like to formally advise the members that I will be stepping aside from the Regional Director position at this AGM. With that said, I intend to remain fully involved with the Mets Region moving forward. While I have enjoyed my time as RD, I feel that it is time to experience a new role within the Region, and I have every confidence that whoever it is that takes over the role, that he/she will operate with the same level of passion that I have endeavoured to demonstrate during my time in the position.

## **FINANCE**

Mets finished the 2021/22 financial year with a total equity of \$28k. This is a most favourable financial position for the Region to be in. The result could have been even better, but for a 'scam' that cost the Region \$2500. Unfortunately, the scammed monies could not be recovered from the CBA. For the purposes of due diligence, Tony Doyle reported the scam to the following entities:

- NSWTA
- The Mets Auditor
- The Mets Executive
- The Commonwealth Bank

The Mets Region has been proactive in raising 'financial issues' with NSWTA over the past year. The most concerning issue from our perspective is the identification and control of development funding provided to the Regions by NSWTA. Tony Doyle has asked NSWTA to be clearer in its communication with the Regions regarding such funding. Pleasingly, NSWTA has acknowledged these concerns, and is now in the process of working with the Regions to ensure all NSWTA Regions utilise their funding effectively.

Another issue that NSWTA is currently considering is; the provision of Debit cards for each Region. So that you all know, there are many Regional monthly expenses that are paid by various Mets Directors from their own personal credit card accounts i.e Aida Catalano pays for a Zoom Account from her credit card and has to apply for a reimbursement each month. There are several such expenses in the Region. NSWTA is currently considering the



allocation of a debit card to each Region to cover such expenses. I personally think it is a good initiative, as it relieves Directors from having to use their private funds to pay for Mets expenses, and then have to make a monthly claim for reimbursement. So NSWTA needs to be congratulated on this this initiative.

Further to the above, each year NSWTA provides each Region with approximately \$20k to help fund administration and development programs in the Region. The allocation of such funds is provided on a quarterly basis from NSWTA, following presentation of proof from the Region that monies have been spent. Tony Doyle wrote to NSWTA and asked for consideration of FULL funding to be provided up front at the beginning of each financial year. The argument with respect to this request was based on the amount of time spent by the 6 Regions and NSWTA staff to process these quarterly payments. Unfortunately, NSWTA did not share the views expressed.

In conclusion, the Region is in a strong financial position, and the Executive look forward to considering and hopefully supporting development initiatives for the 2022/23 financial year,

## **JUNIORS**

COVID 19 and significant rainfall had a huge impact on the preparation leading up to selection gala days, JSC and also leading up to the junior Regionals held on the Central Coast.

It was decided by the METs executive and junior committee that talent IDing for our METS squads who would compete at the Central Coast in April 2022, would take place at the Penrith Gala day, Parramatta Gala day, Junior State Cup and final selection days held in March. The tight timeline that we had to work with had an impact on the ordering and delivery of the player's uniforms.

Teams were ratified and announced via METS social media pages.

The 2022 Junior Regionals event produced some mixed results for our teams. Our boys teams all made the semi -finals with the 14 Boys winning the championship. Our 14 Girls and 18 Girls both made the semi-finals with the 14 Girls finishing runners up.

We had a total of 20 players named in the NSW merits squads, an outstanding achievement.

## **SELECTORS**

The last 12 months have thrown up many challenges for the METS selection panel and crew.

The selection process for this year's National Touch League was carried out by Team Leaders, Head Coaches, and assisting selectors, under the direction of the Director of Selectors and the Coaching Director. The process was overseen by the Technical Director. Players were assessed at the three affiliate Gala Days (two of which were compulsory events), squads were named, and selections were finalised at official trials. Throughout the process selections were impacted and delayed by COVID, changes to NSW events and extreme weather conditions.

The Junior Regional selections pathway started in Early January with the Penrith Jnr Gala Day and finished with our finals trials post JSC. These were challenges with the ground closures and coaches and regional executives scrambling to find fields to get these conducted in a timely manner.

The executive and selection panel are looking at a new structure on how to complete the 2023 Jnr Regionals Selections Process which should streamline the process. It will also provide great clarity for all levels of the region to understand.

METS was again well represented in the State Selectors realm with 3 of our members taking up team leader roles for the 2022 State of Origin Series

### **State Selectors**

Mick Clark (NSW Panel & M40s & M45s Team Leader), Geoff Thornton (NSW Mixed Open and Snr Mixed Team Leader, and Selector for NSW M20S) Dilani Fahey (NSW W50s Team Leader).

Brett Jones (Selector NSW M50s, M55s & M60s)

### **2022 Jnr Regional Team Leaders**

12 Boys - Tony Bignold

12 Girls - Michael Clarke

14 Boys - Kieran Leaney

14 Girls - Tony Bignold

16 Boys - Geoff Thornton

16 Girls - Michael Clarke

18 Boys - Geoff Thornton

18 Girls – Michael Clark

### **2022 National Touch League Team Leaders**

Men's Open - Geoff Thornton

Women's Open - Sharon McDonald initially, then due to the rescheduling of the event, the team had the bare minimum of players available, so no team leader was required.

Mixed Open - Geoff Thornton

Men's 20s - Tony Bignold

Women's 20s - Margaret Thornton

Men's 45s - Michael Clarke

## **COACHING**

### **JUNIOR REGIONALS**

Despite the threat of heavy rain and closed grounds the Junior Regionals went ahead on the Central Coast. Mets appointed several new coaches for the event in line with recent boundary changes.

Mets finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall, and we feel we took a step backwards this year. This may have been due to the fact we had many obstacles with field closures and heavy rain but we look forward to once again moving in the right direction.

To continue our progress Mets, have strategically appointed Assistant Coaches in both arms with a view of succession planning these Assistant Coaches into head coaches in the near

future. This succession planning will stay in place as we plan to continue moving forward for the 2023 Junior Regionals.

### **METS GALA DAY**

Mets Gala days went ahead with great success with a Gala Day played in Penrith and for the first time in Parramatta again in line with boundary changes. Although not an official Mets Gala Day Balmain also held a Knockout tournament which assisted in TID. This was held at Timbrell Park in the Balmain affiliate.

### **METS MENTOR PROGRAM**

In 2022 The Mets Mentor Program was once again activated however I do not feel this presented good value for money as the Mentors had several other commitments such as NTL and State Cup. This was forced upon them by the postponement of both of those tournaments which were then rescheduled close to the Junior Regionals. Mets again appointed 4 Australian Players as Mentors who were strategically allocated for each team taking into account dynamics, skill sets and Mentor Coach Liaison. The Mentors were Nick Good (Boys 18), James Blackwood (Boys 16) Elin Michelson (Girls 16), Abbey Pappenhuyzen (Girls 18).

### **NTL**

Mets were able to field a Mens 20's team for the first time in over 5 years as well as a Womens 20's Team. Also, in attendance were Mixed Open Team, Womens Open, Mens Open and Mens O/45s. Our Young 20's teams struggled for the majority of the tournament but were an essential step forward in our and their development. The Mixed Team were a disappointment this year in both off and on field performances. This was due to a lack of commitment and consistency from players. The Mens team battled hard and can be considered extremely unlucky bowing out in the Quarter Finals. It's fair to say that they were on the receiving end of some very tough calls at crucial times throughout several matches. They did however select a very new looking team with several players from the Parramatta affiliate which will hold them in good stead for the future. The women's team invested in youth with several young players selected from Parramatta and other affiliates. They bowed out in the quarter finals, and it is fair to say they didn't meet expectations but as a group they all agreed that there were some great learnings that they look forward to implementing into 2023. They are in a definite rebuilding phase, and they appear ready to take that challenge.

### **CONCLUSION**

As with most Region's teams and sports, Floods, Consistently Heavy rain, and Field closures proved a great disruption to METS and our plans. There were many obstacles re Trials, Training and playing however we managed to overcome them and get teams selected and playing.

In 2022 our Goals were to continue to improve and solidify our Culture, improve Face to face coaching with our Head Coaches and secure a higher ranking in the Club Championships. I do not believe we reached those goals in the NTL or Junior Regionals and may have actually gone backwards however I think we continue to take small steps.

In 2023 our Goals have not changed and will now be the focus with greater emphasis on the NTL and JR. It is fair to say that with the Regional Boundary restructure we have acquired greater depth in personnel both players and officials as well as greater resources with

playing fields etc. This will enhance our chances and opportunity to reach our goals. We will still focus on working hard to convert our appearances into victories both in Grand Final and Semi Finals. And of course, by doing this we can reach our main aim which is to be the Number Region in NSW.

## **REFEREES**

### **Preamble**

A proactive year for Mets despite what 2022 continues to throw at us!

All affiliates in the Mets region have been visited at least once in the last 12 months. With courses (various levels) being run from the following venues: West Ashfield, Western suburbs Junior AFL club, Vikings club Dundas and Macquarie University

Furthermore, cooperation between the affiliates has been positive with referees often reinforcing each other's affiliates at times of need.

This has resulted in excellent participation in the region and more importantly goodwill. This was reflected in referee participation in the Mets Gala days and trial games (Weather permitting). But what was perhaps the most pleasing for Daniel (Kustec) and I was the flexibility the referee arm showed with the revolving door of venue date and time changes to trial matches (which was brilliantly handled by the Mets Exec and Coaching/Selecting arms). The referees simply adapted to what was needed with little to no fuss, with the primary end goal to ensure the region was covered and supported from our (referee) standpoint.

### **Notable points**

Mets exceeded required quota for Junior Regionals in Central Coast in April. (3 X Mets referee were assistant coach during this tournament).

Rachael Whiteside, Alanah Sinclair, Victor Baptista, Daniel Kustec and Sam Whiteside were Selected to represent NSW as Referees at this year's State of Origin.

Great referee support for the Mets Gala Day in. Unfortunately, we were denied a second due to weather cancelling the second Gala Day.

Mets hosted a facilitator's course at Bankstown Sports hosted by Craig Thomas - Schumacher. This was geared toward training trainers for future Referee courses. 8 referees from 4 Mets Affiliates attended this course. Thank you for holding it, Craig!

6 referees that achieved the high badge of Level 6 at this year's NTL in May:

- Western Suburbs: Atikah Scott, Clint Aplitt and Mathew Bowcock
- Balmain: Sam Piper, Craig Carmody
- Penrith: Steven Namouvski

2 Referees achieving their NSW state grading of Level 4 at this year's Junior Regionals

- South West Raptors: John Vu:
- Western Suburbs: Xavier Lemusu

## Challenges

The main challenges/ Goals to tackle over the next 12 months

- Going forward will be a renewed drive toward referee coaches being developed in every Affiliate (due start of second quarter) **ACTIONED**
- Level 1 and 2 drive based on need and geolocation **On going**
- Address the issue of referee poaching that has started to emerge in the lead-up to State tournaments. **On going**
- Better visibility/direction as to referee pathways going forward. At present, it is not clear and very subjective. **On going**
- Would like to see NSW Tech Director reintroduce meetings of the Regional DOR's (None since mid-2019) **On going**

## REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Working with affiliate Presidents to ensure the Mets Region has at least 3 Gala Days each year. Two of the 3 will be compulsory attendance Gala Days, which will be used as part of the TID process for selection into Jnr Regional teams.
2. The Mets committee is already planning for the 2023 Jnr Regionals. At a recent meeting, timelines were discussed and decided on, with respect to conducting earlier identification of players wishing to participate at the 2023 Jnr Regionals. This will be achieved by conducting trials before gala days are held, to establish a database of interested players. At the same time, player apparel sizing will be established so there is minimal to none hold up when gear orders are required to be placed.

Ricky Hetherington



## OVERVIEW

After several challenging years in relation to COVID-19 and inclement weather impacted events, this reporting period saw Sydney Scorpions compete at the 2022 Junior Regional (JR) and National Touch League (NTL) events. Our plans to attend the 2021 National Youth Championships (NYC) were once again inversely impacted as a result of COVID-19 resulting in Scorpions

withdrawal.

In January 2022, Scorpions held our inaugural Gary Croft Junior Gala Day. The event is named in honour of our late Scorpions Life Member Gary Croft. Northern Beaches Renegades hosted the event, and it was pleasing to see Scorpions Life Member Melanie Croft and daughter Wendy in attendance.

The NTL did present many challenges after the initial March event was postponed until May. This was due to torrential rainfall in the lead-up to the March event resulting in flooded fields. Disappointingly Classic Holidays (the Boambee Bay Resort management company) held the majority of our accommodation payments for the March event and were unable to provide any accommodation for the May event. Both TFA and Gurmeh Singh (NSW Parliament Member for Coffs Harbour) did endeavour to assist us in recovering funds via Classic Holidays, however unfortunately these negotiations were unsuccessful. As such Scorpions Executive Committee agreed to compensate our members who were financially impacted by outlaying a 40% return on their accommodation costs, resulting in an expense to the region of \$17k. Scorpions will receive approximately \$5k of this amount back in the form of Boambee Bay Resort credits, as Classic Holidays agreed to compensate the region in the form of covering 10% of deposits for NTL 2023.

Scorpions sent 16 teams to NTL finishing second to the Brisbane City Cobras who took out the Golden Boot Champion Permit title. Scorpions won 4 championship titles and were runners-up in another 4 divisions. Overall, it was once again a very enjoyable and successful campaign. There was also increased focus on our Mixed Open program which was very pleasing. Special thanks to several people for making this happen, including Matthew Scranage, Christian Frost, Daniel Rushworth and Jamie Chan. Scorpions do recognise the importance of having a Mixed pathway and we thank these individuals for their knowledge, professionalism, and passion for the Mixed game.

Several highlights took place at our Scorpions NTL Awards Dinner which was held at C.ex Coffs Club. Firstly, we named our 25 Year Silver Jubilee teams, with NSWTA General Manager Dean Russell announcing the teams on the evening. Scorpions have been fortunate to have so many outstanding athletes and officials compete at NTL for over a quarter of a century, and it was fantastic to be able to present special plaques to many of these representatives who were on hand and named in our Mixed, Women's and Men's Open teams. Congratulations also to Adam Collins who was inducted into the Sydney Scorpions Hall of Fame.

Another highlight on the night was our annual fundraising initiative. Since 2014 Sydney Scorpions have raised \$18k at our award dinners via our members. This year our beneficiary was 'In It For Ella' and we raised \$5.4k. Thanks to Mia Wilson who prepared an emotional video which was played at the dinner, explaining how she was fundraising for her close friend Ella Engel who has been living with a terrible disease called Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) for six years.

The Junior Regional event took place over the last weekend in April at Tuggerah. Scorpions had 6 out of 8 teams making grand finals with the Girls 14's, Girls 16's and Girls 18's all being crowned champions. As a result, Scorpions successfully retained our Champion Permit title, making it 12 titles in a row and a total of 13. This is a fantastic accomplishment, especially after the regional boundary changes which took place in 2021.

Another accomplishment over this reporting season has been the publishing of our online Scorpions Almanac. In conjunction with Cary Thompson and his Touch Almanac, we spent a great amount of time reviewing the records we have for our team lists spanning 25 years. These comprise of team lists, including officials, for events such as Junior Regionals, National Youth Championships, National Touch League and more.

Scorpions are greatly concerned about the TFA proposed changes to the NTL format, i.e., changing from a regional to an affiliate based event. Scorpions are interested in being involved in any working group or adding value in any other means possible, including reviewing opportunities to improve the NTL event. Scorpions are hopeful that TFA will acknowledge and listen to the overwhelming sentiment from regions around the country in support of a regional based event which is vital for pathway opportunities in our sport.

Many thanks to the entire Sydney Scorpions committee, officials, athletes, and parents for their continued support no doubt driving Scorpions to even greater heights over the next 12 months.

**2021-22 Sydney Scorpions Committee:**

Regional Director – Anthony Dudeck

Regional Administrator – Elesha Te Paa

Regional Technical Director – Brad Curl

Regional Finance Director – Johanne Joe

Regional Coaching Director – Brad Curl

Regional Referees Director – Bill Slade

Regional Selectors Director – Bruce Ager, Jim Randall

Regional Juniors Director – Craig Lowe

Regional Merchandise Manager – Michelle Geros

Regional Affiliate Liaison Manager – Elesha Te Paa, Georgia Randall

Regional Media & Communications Manager – Anthony Dudeck

Regional High Performance Manager – Anthony Dudeck, Elesha Te Paa, Johanne Joe, Michelle Geros

**FINANCE**

Scorpions have experienced some significant challenges since the onset of COVID-19 in

2020, with the rescheduled 2022 NTL resulting in significant financial loss to both our members and the region.

Disappointingly Classic Holidays (the Boambee Bay Resort management company) held the majority of our accommodation payments for the March event and were unable to provide any accommodation for the May event. Both TFA and Gurmeh Singh (NSW Parliament Member for Coffs Harbour) did endeavour to assist us in recovering funds via Classic Holidays, however unfortunately these negotiations were unsuccessful.

As such Scorpions Executive Committee agreed to compensate our members who were financially impacted by outlaying a 40% return on their accommodation costs, resulting in an expense to the region of \$17k. Scorpions will receive approximately \$5k of this amount back in the form of Boambee Bay Resort credits, as Classic Holidays agreed to compensate the region in the form of covering 10% of deposits for NTL 2023.

A summary of our financial position includes:

- a) Scorpions retained earnings for the financial year are \$42k, this compares to \$39k for the previous year
- b) Scorpions made a \$2.7k profit for the financial year
- c) Compensation paid by Scorpions to our members after Classic Holidays retained NTL accommodation funds equates to \$12k
- d) Scorpions outlaid \$16k towards accommodation refundable deposits for the 2023 National Youth Championships on the Sunshine Coast. These deposits will be refunded to Scorpions during August 2022
- e) Scorpions purchased a laptop and printer totaling \$4.2k, which appears on our asset register
- f) Scorpions purchased an EFTPOS payment Square for \$488 which also appears on our asset register

A further update can be found below in relation to several key finance areas:

- **Apparel:** Scorpions continue to use ISC Sport as our main apparel supplier. Assets on hand in relation to apparel amount to \$16k. We intend using both NTL and Junior Regional on hand apparel for the 2023 events.
- **Xero:** The introduction of Xero last year resulted in streamlined processes, and it continues to provide value-add to our operations allowing us to function much more efficiently and monitor accounts closely.
- **Managers Hub:** For all events Scorpions continue to leverage our Manager Hub (via Google Sheets) which was put in place to provide team managers visibility on their team financials accounts, apparel orders, accommodation requirements, etc.
- **Fundraising:** For the 2021 NTL Scorpions introduced of an online fundraising platform (Big Cartel) to assist members with levies and their financials commitments related to attending events. Scorpions coordinated another fundraising raffle for the 2022 NTL



event. Many thanks to Gremmo Homes who won the raffle first prize and donated the monies back to the Women's 20's team.

- **Auditor:** At Scorpions 2018 AGM Behrens Rowley were appointed as auditor for 5 years. As such there is one more year to pass until review at the 2023 AGM. It should be noted that Behrens Rowley recently split into two new companies, of which Scorpions are now using Kendalls Behrens Chartered Accountants.

## **TECHNICAL**

### **Coaching**

Once again Scorpions coaching ranks continue to strengthen and it was great to see some familiar faces returning and the addition of some up and coming coaches join our teams.

After a couple of disruptive years, it was excellent to be able to get back on the playing field for the 2022 Junior Regional event, which was held at Tuggerah on the Central Coast.

As has been common practice for many years, several Scorpions teams stood up and performed when it really counted on finals day Sunday. A great example of this was the Girls 18's team coached by Samantha Rodgers. The team put aside some mixed results on day one to defeat the Hunter Western Hornets 5-1 in the semi-final and then defeat the highly fancied South West South Suns 3-2 in the grand final after losing to Suns during the round games.

In total Scorpions had 6 out of 8 teams making grand finals with the Girls 14's, Girls 16's and Girls 18's all being crowned champions. The Boys 16's were unluckily beaten in a grand final drop-off. As a result, Scorpions successfully retained their Champion Permit title, making it 12 in a row and a total of 13 wins.

Congratulations to the following coaching teams for their successful Junior Regional campaign:

### **Girls 14's**

Head Coach – Gloria Berryman  
Head Coach – Kalani Duff-Berryman  
Assistant Coach – Nicole Saldern  
Manager – Kellie Cohen

### **Girls 16's**

Head Coach – Keith Smith  
Head Coach – Shellie Davis  
Assistant Coach – Jordan Parsonage  
Manager – Leah Ellis

### **Girls 18's**

Head Coach – Samantha Rodgers  
Assistant Coach – Justin Richardson  
Assistant Coach – Trevor McDougall  
Manager – Sara Wilson

It was a very different NTL in 2022, with the extreme weather making the fields unplayable in March resulting in the tournament postponed and rescheduled to a couple of months later in May. This made it very difficult for coaches in preparing their teams with many winter sports already underway and therefore clashing. Additionally field access for training was extremely challenging and alternate options costly.

Despite this, and the loss of our traditional accommodation at Boambee Bay Resort, Scorpions were still able to send a strong contingent of 16 teams. It was once again the performance of our Women's, along with our senior teams, which kept us in the hunt for the Champion Permit title.

A highlight for Scorpions was the performance of our young Women's 20's team in taking out the title 7-6 in the grand final against the Brisbane City Cobras. Also, the performance of our Women's Opens who went down fighting in a nail biting grand final 4-3 against the South Queensland Sharks.

Congratulations also to our Senior Mixed along with our Men's 50 and Men's 55's who were all successful in winning their divisions. Despite the 4 titles Scorpions for the third consecutive year had to settle for runners up in the Champion Permit.

There was also increased focus on our Mixed Open program which was very pleasing. Special thanks to several people for making this happen, including Matthew Scranage, Christian Frost, Daniel Rushworth, and Jamie Chan. Scorpions do recognise the importance of having a Mixed pathway and we thank these individuals for their knowledge, professionalism, and passion for the Mixed game.

In our Men's Open program, we sent two teams in the Men's Open division. Our Men's Open A team were quarter finalists, with our Men's Open B team finishing tenth. Going forward to NTL 2023 our preference will be to send one Men's Open team and another in the Men's 20's division, should it be offered.

In our Women's Open program, we sent two teams. One in the Women's Open division and one in the Women's 20's. It was pleasing to see so many of our elite female players back representing our Women's Open team after a few years playing Mixed Open. The Women's Open grand final was yet another close battle against the South Queensland Sharks, resulting in Sydney Scorpions yet again runners up for the fourth consecutive year going down by 4-3.

Congratulations to our champion winning coaching teams as below:

### **Women's 20's**

Head Coach – Christian Browne

Assistant Coach – Jordan Parsonage

Assistant Coach – Keith Smith

Manager – Michelle Geros

### **Senior Mixed**

Head Coach – Heath Cooper

Assistant Coach – Terry Cooper

Manager – Christine Cooper

### **Men's 50's**

Head Coach – Ian Kalms

Head Coach – Jason Martin

Manager – Aron Watson

### **Men's 55's**

Head Coach – Bruce Ager

Manager – Kim Gillard

Congratulations also to our award winners below who were acknowledged at the Scorpions NTL Awards Dinner.

Junior Coach of the Year 2021 – Brandon McDonald

Senior Coach of the Year 2021 – Phil Jarrett

Men's Open Silver Jubilee Coaches/Manager – Sam Ayoub, Terry Cooper, Christine Cooper

Women's Open Silver Jubilee Coaches/Manager – Barry Gibson, Gary Croft, Melanie Croft

Mixed Open Silver Jubilee Coaches/Manager – Dave Boland, Terry Cooper, Christine Cooper

### **Selecting**

The Junior Regional selection process commenced with TalentID undertaken at the Scorpions Gary Croft Junior Gala Day followed by the Parramatta TA Twilight Gala event. Scorpions Junior Gala Day was a great success held in conjunction with Northern Beaches Renegades TA.

Scorpions continue to engage our affiliates and invite club coaches to provide feedback on their athletes as this assists in the overall TalentID process.

Scorpions had affiliates entered at both the southern and northern Junior State Cup conferences where TalentID usually continues. Unfortunately, the northern conference was cancelled the day before the competition due to torrential rain resulting in flooded playing fields at Port Macquarie. TalentID was performed at the southern conference at Wagga Wagga where the Hills Hornets competed.

For 2022 Scorpions decided not to hold our Junior Elite Camp. This was due to a congested touch calendar in early 2022, coming out of a COVID-19 lockdown leading into the planned Junior Elite Camp. As a result, the initial Junior Regional squads were invited to trials which took place at Beacon Hill. From these trials initial squads were reduced to train-on squads with final teams then selected from the first few training sessions.

The open and senior NTL divisions continue to be competitive and require selectors to oversee the process. Teams are selected through TalentID and player expressions of interest. Final selections were made through team trials.

Scorpions is currently liaising with the NSWTA Selectors arm to source a list of our accredited selectors which we will publish in due course via our website. Scorpions are also reviewing our selection policy in conjunction with NSWTA Selectors, aiming to make improvements where required.

Additional congratulations to all Scorpions athletes, coaches, managers, selectors, and referees who have been selected to represent the NSW Blues at the 2022 State of Origin event to be held in August 2022 at Coffs Harbour.

### **Referees**

Once again, our representative level referees have been outstanding and continue to be a credit to the Scorpions region. We are continuing to develop referees at affiliate level, having once again provided several courses throughout the region over the past twelve months, even during the COVID-19 restrictions which caused changes to the programs we have in place.

At the 2022 Junior State Cup southern conference, there were several Scorpions referees attending with their affiliates. The following Scorpions referees received their Level 2 and Level 3 upgrades:

Level 2: Tom Jordan (Carlingford), Harry Jordan (Carlingford), Rory Mitchell (Hills), James O'Brien (Hills)

Level 3: Ella Carnegie (Norths), Craig Egginton (Hills), Tim Sleigh (Hills)

Scorpions had 8 referees attend the 2022 NTL tournament with congratulations to Anthony Smith and Keaton Dal Santo who all achieved the ultimate in being appointed to a grand final. We also had one referee who received an upgrade, that being Samuel Piper to Level 6.

Scorpions had 10 referees attend the 2022 Junior Regional event which was held in Tuggerah. Congratulations to Clive Elks, Leon Gonzales and Johan Steyn who all received their Level 4 state grading.

Congratulations to Ellen Macleod who was selected in the NSWTA Talented Referees Youth Squad. Ellen joins two other Scorpion referees Ella Carnegie and Caitlin Sherry who are also squad members.

The 2021 Scorpions Referee of the Year was announced at the 2022 NTL Awards Dinner with Peter Cooper the much deserved recipient.

### **JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT**

For 2022 Scorpions decided not to hold our Junior Elite Camp. This was due to a congested touch calendar in early 2022, coming out of a COVID-19 lockdown leading into the planned Junior Elite Camp. In previous years much of our junior development has taken place at these camps which have been held at the Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen.

The 2022 Junior Regional campaign was again challenging for all concerned due to the continued disruption caused by COVID-19 combined with inclement weather impacting field

availability and forcing widespread field closures. Scorpions entered Boys and Girls representative teams in all 8 divisions.

Congratulations to all our Scorpions administrators, coaching and team managers, referees, and players for their success in Tuggerah. Individual team results were strong, and Scorpions had 6 out of our 8 teams reaching the grand finals. Congratulations to the Girls 14's, Girls 16's, and Girls 18's who were all crowned champions.

Huge congratulations to all Scorpions members for being crowned the Champion Permit for the 12th consecutive year, finishing on 89 points. Congratulations also to West South West Suns (64 points) and the Hunter Western Hornets (63 points) who finished second and third placed respectively.

A special mention to all Scorpions members involved with Junior Regionals, who were also concurrently supporting our grass roots affiliate clubs, as well as the National Touch League program which took place shortly after Junior Regionals. It was a very congested couple of months with all involved doing a fantastic job under pressure with conflicting priorities and obligations.

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

This reporting period Scorpions introduced the Affiliate Working Group. This comprised of representatives from our affiliates who met several times through-out the representative season to share information and discuss any important timely topics.

Scorpions are now accredited with the Good Sports Program as a commitment to ensuring that our members representing the region feel welcome and safe.

The postponement of the NTL resulted in a three day gap in between the Junior Regional and National Touch League events. This resulted in extra workload and pressure for our officials and administrators. Going forward Scorpions requests that both NSWTA and TFA advise any event contingency dates at the same time when the preferred dates of the event are released. This will at least allow people to be better armed with information in order to communicate with their accommodation and employers should the event be postponed. At present we are provided a rescheduled date when the event is postponed, and this creates additional pressure and stress on players, officials, families, and administrators as opposed to knowing the planned contingency dates months earlier.

Another accomplishment over this reporting season has been the publishing of our online Scorpions Almanac. In conjunction with Cary Thompson and his Touch Almanac, we spent a great amount of time reviewing the records we have for our team lists spanning 25 years. These comprise of team lists, including officials, for events such as Junior Regionals, National Youth Championships, National Touch League and more.

#### **APPAREL & MERCHANDISE**

ISC Sport continues to be our primary apparel supplier for our events. Apparel on hand amounts to \$16k and we intend using both NTL and Junior Regional on hand apparel for the 2023 events.

For the 2022 NTL we kept the same uniform and off-field designs as were introduced for the 2021 event. This resulted in mainly top-up orders for teams with most participants already having the required uniform. As is usual, a major challenge was avoiding playing number clashes. Similar to the 2021 NTL we had two All Abilities teams, with one team wearing a predominately navy kit as opposed to the usual bottle green.

As has always been the case, for the 2022 Junior Regional event Scorpions introduced a new uniform from the previous Junior Regional event. This 2022 design was based on our 2017 NSW Scorpions design, which was worn by our victorious Women's Open Elite 8 champions. Feedback was extremely positive, and we plan on keeping this design for the next Junior Regional event in 2023.

Scorpions also planned to attend the 2021 National Youth Championships; however, this did not eventuate due to COVID-19 related Queensland border closures. Due to manufacturing timelines apparel was still ordered and supplied to participants, with the bonus of player surnames across the back of the singlet.

For all our junior, open and senior playing singlets/shirts we continue to include the names of our Hall of Fame inductees within the playing number.

We have commenced cataloguing our Scorpions uniform history from the past 25 years and will continue with this project until completion.

### **HIGH PERFORMANCE UNIT**

For many years our High Performance Unit (HPU) has been heavily involved in organising our Junior Elite Camp. For 2022 Scorpions decided not to hold our Junior Elite Camp. This was due to a congested touch calendar in early 2022, coming out of a COVID-19 lockdown leading into the planned Junior Elite Camp.

Scorpions announced an official partnership with Narrabeen Sports High School (NSHS). Student-athletes involved in the NSHS Touch Football Academy Program, attended the official launch of the partnership on 3 December 2022. Attendees participated in skills, drills, and activities with academy coaches. The partnership aims to increase opportunities for talent development and improve access to high performance resources including coaches and events for the school. Scorpions look forward to partnering with Narrabeen Sports High School aiming to assist student-athletes on their journey for success in both sporting and academic pathways.

During April 2022, Scorpions launched our Scorpions HPU Preparation, Recovery & Mindset Information Deck. The objective of the information deck is to educate and empower officials, referees, players, and parents in relation to event preparation, recovery, and mindset tools. This information deck is a 'living document' which means it will be continually reviewed, improved, and developed for each event, i.e., Junior Regionals, National Touch League, and National Youth Championships.

For the 2022 NTL our medical team included a mix of physiotherapists, masseuses, strappers, and a sports scientist; who looked after 16 teams. Many thanks to Hoys Allied Health for assisting in sourcing our medical team which comprised of the following talented

practitioners: Ange Hernandez, Christine Taylor, Jason Alexander, Kathryn Beebe, Kerri–Lee Taylor, Max Rayfield, Michael Donaghy, Shash Sharma, Travis Masters.

Even though tent sizes were once again restricted at the NTL event, Scorpions still set-up a recovery zone thanks to Michael Donaghy. Unfortunately, yet again at the playing fields, we could not utilise ice baths due to COVID-19 restrictions. At the 2021 NTL we had set-up a medical hub, including ice baths at Boambee Bay Resort. However, because we did not stay at the resort for this rescheduled event, recovery was very much in the hands of the team coaches and managers.

For the 2022 Junior Regional event our medical team included Tegan Van Rijn, Sarah Jane Jones and Michael Donaghy, who between them looked after our 8 junior teams.

### **MARKETING & SOCIAL MEDIA**

This reporting period Scorpions once again leveraged our WordPress website plus Facebook and Instagram as our main means of communication with members.

Many thanks to Kathryn Johnston for yet again doing an outstanding job for Scorpions capturing action and team photos of our athletes, officials, and referees at the 2022 NTL event. Additional thanks to Matt Long who also did an outstanding job looking after our photography at the 2022 Junior Regional event. All historical action and team photos can be accessed via our website.

### **TOURNAMENTS**

#### **National Touch League (4 - 7 May 2022)**

The NTL did present many challenges after the initial March event was postponed until May. This was due to torrential rainfall in the lead-up to the March event resulting in flooded fields. Disappointingly Classic Holidays (the Boambee Bay Resort management company) held the majority of our accommodation payments for the March event and were unable to provide any accommodation for the May event. Both TFA and Gurmeh Singh (NSW Parliament Member for Coffs Harbour) did endeavour to assist us in recovering funds via Classic Holidays, however unfortunately these negotiations were unsuccessful. As such Scorpions Executive Committee agreed to compensate our members who were financially impacted by outlaying a 40% return on their accommodation costs, resulting in an expense to the region of \$17k. Scorpions will receive approximately \$5k of this amount back in the form of Boambee Bay Resort credits, as Classic Holidays agreed to compensate the region in the form of covering 10% of deposits for NTL 2023.

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Congratulations to Adam Collins who was inducted into the Scorpions Hall of Fame. Also, a number of Scorpions were awarded the Cooper Medal which recognises the outstanding contribution for players reaching 20 years of Scorpions NTL service. Recipients at our awards dinner included Andrew Windsor, Anthony Dudeck, Brett Gillard, Darren Swain and Mark Leonard. Katrina McIlwraith and Michelle Smidt were also awarded their medals, with NTL 2022 their 23rd year for Scorpions.

Scorpions are greatly concerned about the TFA proposed changes to the NTL format, i.e., changing to an affiliate based event. Scorpions are very interested in being involved in any working group or adding value in any other means possible reviewing opportunities to improve the NTL event. Scorpions are hoping that TFA listen to the overwhelming sentiment from regions around the country in support of a regional based event which is vital for pathway opportunities in our sport.

**NTL Golden Boot Champion Permit:**

- 1st Brisbane City Cobras (105 points)
- 2nd Sydney Scorpions (94 points)
- 3rd South Queensland Sharks (91 points)

**NTL 2022 Sydney Scorpions Team Results & Award Winners:**

**Women's Open**

- Grand Finalists – Sharks 4 defeated Scorpions 3
- Scorpions Boland Trophy – Mackenzie Davis
- Coaches Awards – Sarah Peattie, Hannah Dyball, Zara Nicholas, Samantha Rodgers
- TFA Player of the Series – Hannah Dyball

**Men's Open A (Blue)**

- Quarter Finalists
- Scorpions Boland Trophy – Will Hickey

**Men's Open B (Green)**

- 10th Placed
- Scorpions Boland Trophy – Max Barnett



### **Mixed Open**

Semi Finalists

Scorpions Eltakchi Medal – Jaycob Fong

Coaches Awards – Emma Williams, Aydan Marsters

Players Player – Jaycob Fong

### **Women's 20's**

Champions – Scorpions 7 defeated Cobras 5

Scorpions Croft Medal – Maggie O'Reilly

Players Player – Jade Pond

TFA Player of the Final – Bella Geros

### **Senior Mixed**

Champions – Scorpions 14 defeated Hornets 4

Scorpions Croft Medal – Vanessa Cooper

TFA Players of the Final – Willie Bishop & Kataraina Withell

### **Women's 45's**

Grand Finalists – Hornets 2 defeated Scorpions 1

Scorpions Croft Medal – Megan Taberner

Coaches Award – Cindy Dawson

### **Women's 40's**

5th Placed

Scorpions Croft Medal – Terri Roberts

### **Women's 50's**

Semi Finalists

Scorpions Croft Medal – Cathy McGain

### **Men's 40's**

Grand Finalists – Sharks 8 defeated Scorpions 5

Scorpions Croft Medal – Jason Scharenguivel

### **Men's 45's**

5th Placed

Scorpions Croft Medal – Steve Menzies

### **Men's 50's**

Champions – Scorpions 10 defeated Sharks 7

Scorpions Croft Medal – Stewart Syron

Coaches Award – Christian Papalia

TFA Player of the Final – Edward Fong

### **Men's 55's**

Champions – Scorpions 8 defeated Cobras 0

Scorpions Croft Medal – Derek Duguid

TFA Players of the Final – Derek Duguid

### **Men's 60's**

Grand Finalists – Cobras 5 defeated Scorpions 3  
Scorpions Croft Medal – Tim Kitchingham

### **All Abilities Tier 1**

Semi Finalists  
Scorpions Greg Brown Medal – Nathan Whalen  
Coaches Award – Bailey Morris

### **All Abilities Tier 2**

5th Placed  
Scorpions Greg Brown Medal – Harry Woodhouse  
Coaches Award – Cooper Robb–Jackson

### **Junior Regional Championship (30 April - 1 May 2022)**

Congratulations to all our Scorpions teams for their success at the Junior Regional event which was held at Tuggerah on the Central Coast. A total of 52 teams from the six NSW regions including Sydney Mets, Sydney Scorpions, Southern Rebels, West South West Suns, Hunter Western Hornets, Northern Eagles, including ACT Raiders - competed in the two day event at the Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreation Complex.

Scorpions had 6 out of 8 teams making grand finals with the Girls 14's, Girls 16's and Girls 18's all being crowned champions. As a result, Scorpions successfully retained the Champion Permit title, making it 12 in a row and a total of 13 wins.

It was pleasing and noticeable to see a spread of regions contesting finals and the closeness of competition across all divisions through the final series. Congratulations to West South West Suns and Hunter Western Hornets for finishing second and third placed respectively.

Congratulations to all Scorpions players on their individual awards and NSWTA Merit Team selections following the 2022 Junior Regional event.

### **Junior Regional Champion Permit:**

1st Sydney Scorpions (89 points)  
2nd West South West Suns (64 points)  
3rd Hunter Western Hornets (63 points)

### **2022 Sydney Scorpions Award Winners:**

#### **Boys 12's**

Grand Finalists – Rebels 2 defeated Scorpions 1  
Scorpions Nolan Medal – Isaac Casey

#### **Girls 12's**

Semi Finalists – Hornets 2 defeated Scorpions 0  
Scorpions Nolan Medal – Bethany Wilson

Players Player – April Unwin

### **Boys 14's**

Semi Finalists – Hornets 5 defeated Scorpions 4

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Rhys Webster

Coaches Award – Taj Paterson

### **Girls 14's**

Champions – Scorpions 5 defeated Mets 1

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Olivia Durdevic

Coaches Award – Davina Raghvani

Player of the Final – Kelsey Berryman

### **Boys 16's**

Grand Finalists – Suns 6 defeated Scorpions 5 (Drop-off)

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Tylan Berryman

Players Player – Tylan Berryman

Coaches Award – Issac Fotu-Moala

### **Girls 16's**

Champions – Scorpions 3 defeated Suns 1

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Tia Matthews

Player of the Final – Ava Jones

### **Boys 18's**

Grand Finalists – Hornets 4 defeated Scorpions 2

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Dylan Charlier

Players Player – Josh Turner

### **Girls 18's**

Champions – Scorpions 3 defeated Suns 2

Scorpions Nolan Medal – Imogen Sayer

Players Player – Lauren McCurley

Player of the Final – Mackenzie Davis

**Junior Regional Club Captains** – Emily Smith & Josh Turner

**Sarah Peattie Medal** – Emily Smith

**Sam Brisby Medal** – Josh Turner

### **2022 NSWTA Merit Teams Scorpions Representatives:**

#### **Girls 12's**

Middle: April Unwin

#### **Boys 12's**

Link: Cooper Eveleigh, Jay Calandruccio

Utility: Kobe Bishop

### **Girls 14's**

Middle: Coco Masters , Shah Wakely, Talea Tonga

Link: Kelsey Berryman, Mia Tonga

Winger: Summer Bourke

Utility: Olivia Durdevic

### **Boys 14's**

Middle: Taj Paterson

Link: Jack Kalms

Winger: Rhys Webster, Jake Medved

### **Girls 16's**

Middle: Waiaria Ellis, Ava Jones

Winger: Jazz Vera, Leila McDougall

### **Boys 16's**

Middle: Tylan Berryman

Link: Max Davies, Logan Tolar

Winger: Taj Thompson

### **Girls 18's**

Middle: Emily Smith, Mackenzie Davis

Link: Imogen Sayer, Nina Vander Reyden

### **Boys 18's**

Middle: Josh Turner

Link: Cooper Angles–Cork

Winger: Cooper Wood

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 2022 Junior Regionals Champion Permit
- 2022 National Touch League Golden Boot Champion Permit runners–up

### **Scorpions Medal & Award Recipients:**

Boys 12's Nolan Medal – Isaac Casey

Girls 12's Nolan Medal – Bethany Wilson

Boys 14's Nolan Medal – Rhys Webster

Girls 14's Nolan Medal – Olivia Durdevic

Boys 16's Nolan Medal – Tylan Berryman

Girls 16's Nolan Medal – Tia Matthews

Boys 18's Nolan Medal – Dylan Charlier

Girls 18's Nolan Medal – Imogen Sayer

Junior Regional Club Captains – Emily Smith & Josh Turner

Sarah Peattie Medal – Emily Smith

Sam Brisby Medal – Josh Turner

Men's Open A Boland Trophy – Will Hickey

Men's Open B Boland Trophy – Max Barnett

Women's Open Boland Trophy – Mackenzie Davis

Mixed Open Eltakchi Medal – Jaycob Fong

Senior Mixed Croft Medal – Vanessa Cooper

Men's 40's Croft Medal – Jason Scharenguivel

Men's 45's Croft Medal – Steve Menzies

Men's 50's Croft Medal – Stewart Syron

Men's 55's Croft Medal – Derek Duguid

Men's 60's Croft Medal – Tim Kitchingham

Women's 20's Croft Medal – Maggie O'Reilly

Women's 40's Croft Medal – Terri Roberts

Women's 45's Croft Medal – Megan Taberner

Women's 50's Croft Medal – Cathy McGain

All Abilities Tier 1 Greg Brown Medal – Nathan Whalen

All Abilities Tier 2 Greg Brown Medal – Harry Woodhouse

Junior Coach of the Year 2021 – Brandon McDonald

Senior Coach of the Year 2021 – Phil Jarrett

Manager of the Year 2021 – Lena Lowe (B12), Paul MacPherson (M40)

Referee of the Year 2021 – Peter Cooper

Regional Directors Award (Brett Gillard Medal) – Brad Curl

**Outstanding Achievement at Affiliate Level:**

N/A due to no 2021 Vawdon or State Cup being held

**In Appreciation Awards:**

C.ex Club Coffs

Hills Hornets TA

Manly Warringah TA

Northern Beaches TA

**Silver Jubilee 25 Year Teams:**

Scorpions Silver Jubilee teams recognise the outstanding athletes and officials that have represented our regional permit in Mixed, Women's and Men's Open divisions spanning 25 years of competition. Teams were announced at the 2022 NTL Awards Dinner on Wednesday 4 May.

**Mixed Open:**

Adam Fahim

Belinda Patterson (McKelvey)

Gary Toohey

Heath Cooper

Jamie Chan

Jason Scharenguivel  
Katrina McIlwraith (Roberts)  
Louise Hopkins (Elliott)  
Maria Fimognari  
Michelle Samson (Flewitt)  
Phil Jarrett  
Rebecca Knights (Hayes)  
Shayne Heiler  
Tony Eltakchi – Captain  
Troy Malcolm  
Willie Chan

Dave Boland – Coach  
Terry Cooper – Coach  
Christine Cooper – Manager

**Women's Open:**

Danni Davis  
Elesha Te Paa (Dougal)  
Hannah Dyball  
Jody English  
Kylie Small  
Laura Peattie  
Nicky Kennedy (Albery)  
Rachelle Davis  
Samantha Rodgers  
Sarah Peattie – Captain  
Silvana Corti  
Stephanie Maiolo  
Tayla Clifford  
Tracey Elliott (Nugent)  
Yasmin Clydsdale (Meakes)  
Zara Nicholas

Barry Gibson – Coach  
Gary Croft – Coach  
Melanie Croft – Manager

**Men's Open:**

Andrew Galea  
Ciaran Toner  
Daniel Barton  
David Roberts  
Dylan Hennessey  
Jamie Stowe  
Jason Zabielo  
John Kennedy

Jonathan Palau  
Jordan Marshall King  
Mark Boland – Captain  
Maurice Kennedy  
Sam Brisby  
Shane Frederiksen  
Simon Lang  
Willie Bishop

Sam Ayoub – Coach  
Terry Cooper – Coach  
Christine Cooper – Manager

**Indigenous All Stars vs. Māori All Stars Scorpions Representatives:**

Indigenous All Stars 7 defeated Māori All Stars 3 on 12 February 2022 at CommBank Stadium, Parramatta.

Indigenous All Stars: Mackenzie Davis, Melissa Mitchell

Māori All Stars: Jordan Marshall King (Captain), Devonte George, Tyla Love, Aaliyah Berryman-Paki, Kiahla Duff, Te Aroha Paki, Craig Lowe



## **OVERVIEW:**

It has been a tumultuous year for affiliates within our region. The disappointment of tournament cancellations, post covid hangover, and the frequent uncontrollable weather events have all played a role in slowing down participation. However, involvement at a regional level has been good considering everything else.

We managed to see new players, referee's and selectors drawn into the Eagles pathway in the last 12 months. This is a real credit to the directors in those areas. Particular mention goes to Mike Kelly for his ideas and enthusiasm regarding the technical panel.

Although we have seen more involvement from individuals, our interaction with affiliates is still a concern, and something we are working on. Engagement needs to increase, but as a committee we have a role to play in that. We are in the process of building our social media footprint, and utilizing these platforms to hopefully grow engagement, particularly with the younger demographic.

It has been good to see increased involvement from individuals in Northern affiliates, in relation to taking on roles and responsibilities at a regional level.

Kendall has done a great job getting our finances in order. This has been a difficult, and time-consuming process, but we are finally through to the other side. Financially we are in a good position to continue moving forward.

Our AGM has been advertised and will take place on Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup>, via ZOOM.

EOI's for players at both JRC and NTL level were good this year. However, we were disappointed to not field a team in the Open Mens division (something we need to work on going forward).

Our NEJC was a great success, and affiliates were genuinely grateful for the chance to give their juniors a tournament to play in.

Moving forward, I believe we have some great opportunities in front of us, and I am looking forward to seeing the progress we can make together in the next 12 months.

## **FINANCE:**

Unfortunately, during the first 3/4 of the 2021/2022 period, we saw a lot of disruption and upheave around our finances. We had someone step in and take over this area late in the backend of the year and we now appear to be back on track.

We had issues arranging access to the bank accounts with CBA and this became quite a drawn out process, however, this too has now also been rectified and we currently have all invoices and payments up to date.



We are currently in a sound financial position and are in the process of setting clear budgets and financial policies that should see this continue and grown moving forward.

We are still utilising Xero for our accounting software and finding that the system works well for us. We have also transitioned to utilising the invoicing features to be able to have more structure around player payments.

One thing that is quite clunky is the requirement of all payments having to be made via bank transfer, meaning that individuals are required to make payment for items and seek reimbursement. We believe that the use of a Visa Debit (not credit) card would help streamline this process.

Having only just sorted access to accounts, and got finances back on track, the Audits for the most recent period have not been completed at this stage. This will be a focus moving forward.

## **TECHNICAL:**

### **Coaching**

The region has run a small number of Foundation courses during the 12 months. COVID has made running courses difficult at various times over the year.

Again, this year we have continued to engage coaches from affiliates other than our primary affiliates of Macksville and Port Macquarie. During the past 12 months Ballina, Taree, Armidale, and Gunnedah affiliates have provided head coaches and assistant coaches for our regional teams. We have also identified and supported young coaches through a mentoring program.

### **Selecting**

**November 21** - Contact and arrange selectors for NTL trails.

**December 21** - State cup cancelled due to flooding on the Mid North Coast and North Coast. Selection was limited to the NTL trails only.

**11 December 21** - NTL trials in Macksville saw the commencement of the mentor buddy system for selectors. This process aids in the upgrading of our current selectors, as well as bringing in new selectors from within our region.

### **Selectors for NTL divisions**

WO - Helen Wilson, Anette Coleman, Loretta Donovan, Scott Turner, Michael Kelly, Michael Ronan.

MXO - David Stone, Peter Vincent, Anette Coleman.

SMX - Helen Wilson, Anette Coleman

M40 - Paul Brady, Ian Wilson

M60 - Ian Wilson, Gary Newman

W40 - Deb Walsh, Rachael Ackroyd, Loretta Donovan, Michael Kelly

W50 - Michael Kelly, Helen Wilson, Louise Budnick

M50 - Allan Kirchen, Craig Englert.

**February 22** - JSC was cancelled due to flooding on the Mid North Coast, so no selections were possible for our junior teams.

**6 March 22** - Northern Eagles Junior Championships were played in Coffs Harbour. This was a good opportunity to use our mentor buddy system to upgrade selectors. It was also the only event to select our Junior regional teams.

### **Selectors for junior divisions**

U/12 Boys - Dean Carson, Deb Walsh, Peter Vincent

U/12 Girls - Tony Webb, Scott Turner, Michael Ronan

U14 Boys - Tracy Wilcox, Anette Coleman

U/16 Girls - Anette Coleman, Helen Wilson, Michael Kelly

U/18 Girls - Chris Trisley, Craig Englert

U/16 Boys - Ian Wilson, Peter Vincent

U/14 Girls - Rachael Ackroyd, Deb Walsh.

**May/June 22** - U/14G, U/14B, U/16G, U/16B teams attend trials to go to NYC.

### **REFEREES**

Not a great year with covid, and rain, cancelling most of our tournaments. We will envisage to get into that this year.

Eagles will be conducting various level two courses around the region to have our affiliates ready for NSWTA tournaments as they need to be Level two to attend. If enough interest is shown we will hopefully run a Foundation coaching referee course. We will be contacting affiliates to see how we can help boost their referee ranks.

We ran a successful Junior Eagles Championship with another crop of referees gaining valuable experience at the tournament. We had limited success in upgrades due to no tournaments, however, congratulations go to Trisha Cortaville-Smith (Taree Touch) on being promoted to level four at the Junior Regionals. Also, congratulations to Trisha and Graham Goodwin on gaining finals appointments at Junior Regionals.

We had our biggest contingent of referees at NTLs this year with 7 referees in attendance. Hopefully we can get a full season in on the park this year.

## **JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT:**

**July 2021** - After the JRC in May, our teams continued to train for the NYC in Caloundra. Lucy and Ellie Spain were selected in CIS U18G team with Bella Ronan and Brin Trisley making the CHS U18G.

**August 2021** - Northern Eagles Affiliates start trials for State Cup 2021. Many of our over 16 Junior players are looking to make U20 Teams.

**September 2021** - QLD Border remained closed so no NSW School or Northern Eagles teams to NYC.

**October 2021** - Eagles affiliates selecting teams for Junior State Cup 2022

**December 2021** - Due to weather event and flooding on the Mid North Coast, the State Cup was cancelled. A sad time for all NSW teams. NTL Trials were held in Macksville with four U/18 G being selected to play for the WO NTL team.

**January 2022** - Northern Eagles Junior Champs (NEJC) Postponed due to the rain and flooding on the Mid North Coast and North Coast.

**February 2022** - The Junior State Cup Northern Conference cancelled due to Rain and flooding in the Eagles Region. This was a missed opportunity to view those players who had an EOI or to Talent identify any new players for the NSW JRC.

**March 6, 2022** – Northern Eagles Junior Championships held in Coffs Harbour. This was the only event to select our Junior teams for JRC. All divisions apart from the U18 boys were filled. The players enjoyed being back on the field and playing competitive touch after such a large break in the cycle. The venue and organisation of the day by Coffs Harbour Touch and Kendall Divine was a great achievement. NTL 2022 Postponed due to rain and flooding events in the region.

**May 2022** -JRC in Tuggerah was a great experience for our teams to develop skills and experience a team environment at a regional level. All players and coaches put in a great effort, with our U14 Boys making the Semi-finals, going down to Mets by 1 touchdown.

**NTL 2022** -For the WO team, Scott Turner and Michael Ronan did a great job in Coaching this division and thus developing our younger players. The MXO Team, coached by David Stone, also had some young players just out of junior divisions. These players have achieved the skills to reach an Opens Division. David Stone is much appreciated and continues to support Eagles development and is a great asset to our region.

## **TOURNAMENT:**

### **NSW Northern Eagles Junior Championships 2022**

Very successful Championships was hosted this year by Coffs Harbour Touch Association. The 1-day event drew teams from Taree, Port Macquarie, Macksville, Ballina, Armidale, and Grafton. The event was played in age divisions from 12 years to 18 years and 49 teams competed across the day. The day served as our selection event for our JRC teams.

## **National Touch League 2022**

NTL participation has increased steadily since 2015.

**2022** - 10 teams - Womens Open, Mixed Open, Mixed Seniors, Mens 40, Womens 40, Mens 50, Womens 50, Mens 60, All abilities x 2 teams.

Our region again had 2 all abilities teams competing at NTL 2022. It was again a rewarding experience, not just for the Abilities athletes, but our other teams as the interaction and support between one another continues to grow.

Once again, due to insufficient, expressions of interest we were unable to field a team in the Mens Open Division.

Our Women's opens team and Open Mixed were again very young teams. These teams performed admirably given their experience and benefited greatly from the exposure to this level. Our Senior Mixed and Womens 40 teams reached the semi-finals of their respective divisions.

This year we again experienced very limited training opportunities due to distance, flooding and COVID. Our open divisions also encounter the problems of quality young players who leave the region due to work and study commitments. In Womens Open a substantial number of players who played junior events for Eagles played Womens Open for other regions. The region is looking at ways in which this can be addressed by attracting those 'home grown' players to return.

## **Junior Regional Championships 2022**

The region provided teams in all age divisions except for 18 years boys. With limited training opportunities due to the floods, distance and COVID restrictions, our teams found it difficult to compete with the metropolitan regions. However, Eagles have recognised this and are instigating measures to address it.

No players were selected in merit teams.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS:**

#### **NSW SOO Coaching**

David Stone - U20M Coach

Craig Englert - 50W Coach

#### **NSW SOO Players**

W35 - Anna Gleeson (Port Macquarie), Tahney Swan (Port Macquarie), Amanda Butler – (Port Macquarie)

W40 - Relle Donovan (Macksville), Kobi Knight (Port Macquarie)

W50 - Cherrie Green (Port Macquarie)

M40 - Paul Brady (Gunnedah)

M45 - Wayne Gleeson (Port Macquarie)

SMX - Beau Montgomery (Port Macquarie), Kimberly Latimore (Port Macquarie)

M60 - Brett Newby (Port Macquarie), Gary Newman (Taree), Ray Bastian (Quirindi)

**Players to be commended on making the 2022 State of Origin Squads:**

Macksville's Lucy Spain (Macksville - W20), Port Macquarie, Brent Nixon (Port Macquarie – MXO)

**JRC**

Under 14 boys – Semi Finalists

**Individual Honours**

Charlize Jones selected in the U15 NSWCHS team.

Ellie Spain selected in the NSW CIS U18G team.

Brin Trisley selected in the NSWCHS U18G team.

Billy Sprague selected in the NSW CCC U18 Boys.

**Allan Kirchen**



## FINANCE REPORT

2021/2022 became a more challenging year than previous financial year as we approach an easing of the Covid-19 pandemic and then we enter an unprecedented La-Nina weather pattern that crippled Touch Football in NSW. This led to our affiliates unable to complete and start local park competitions and our ability to conduct our premium events that took away our main resource of income estimated in the following:

Item	Net Income Loss
• Affiliation Fees	\$ 265,000
• Country Championships	\$ 19,700
• Vawdon Cup	\$ 44,000
• State Cup	\$ 99,300
• Junior State Cup Northern Conference	\$ 65,500
<b>Estimated Loss of Net Income</b>	<b>\$493,500</b>

It should be noted that the estimated loss is based on review of both budgeted income and losses occurred through cancellations of events.

NSW Touch is still in a solid financial position with our total equity at \$2,821,442 as per our balance sheet.

We showed a profit \$101,827 which is pleasing but if wasn't for Government assistance of as follows:

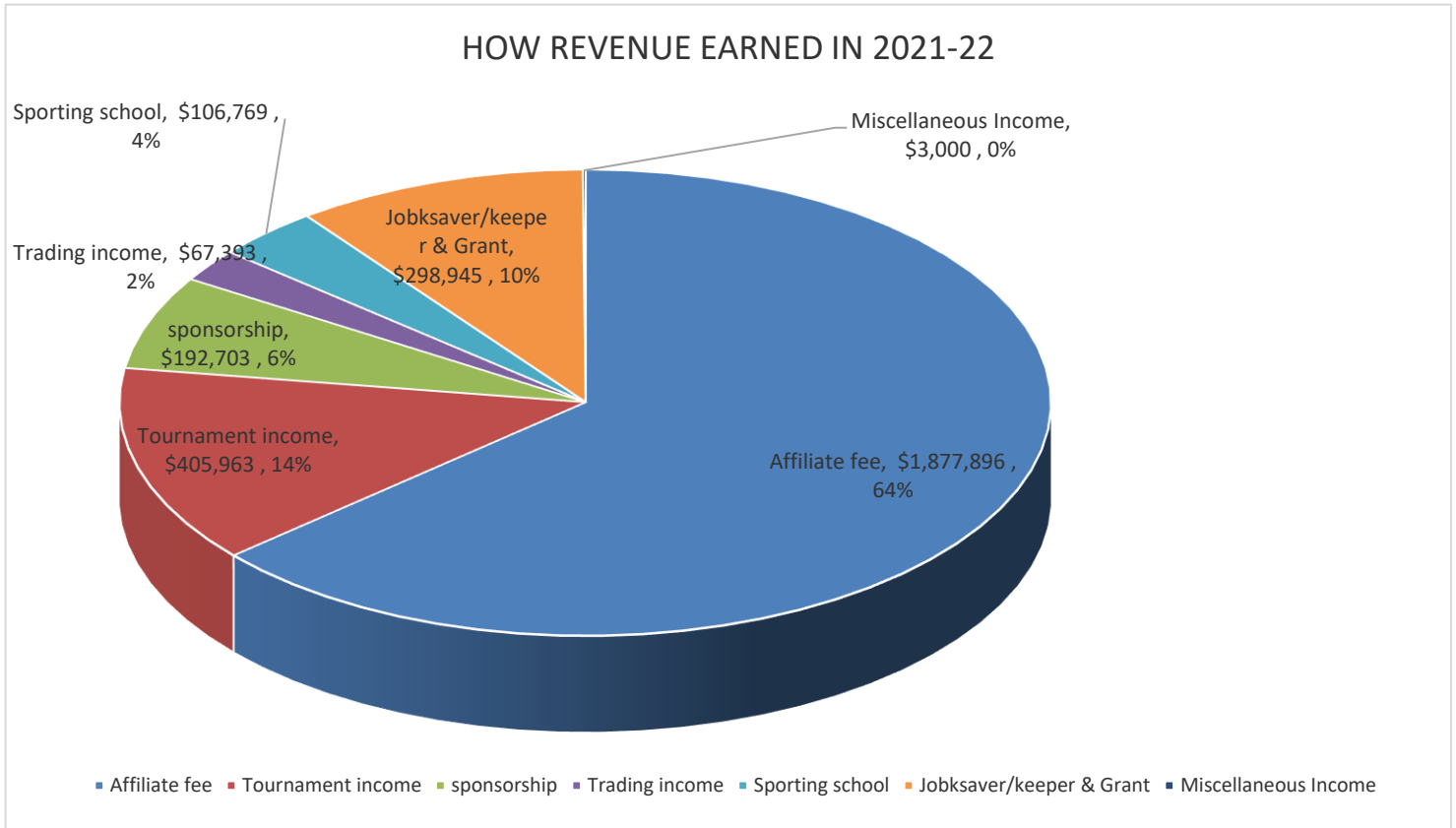
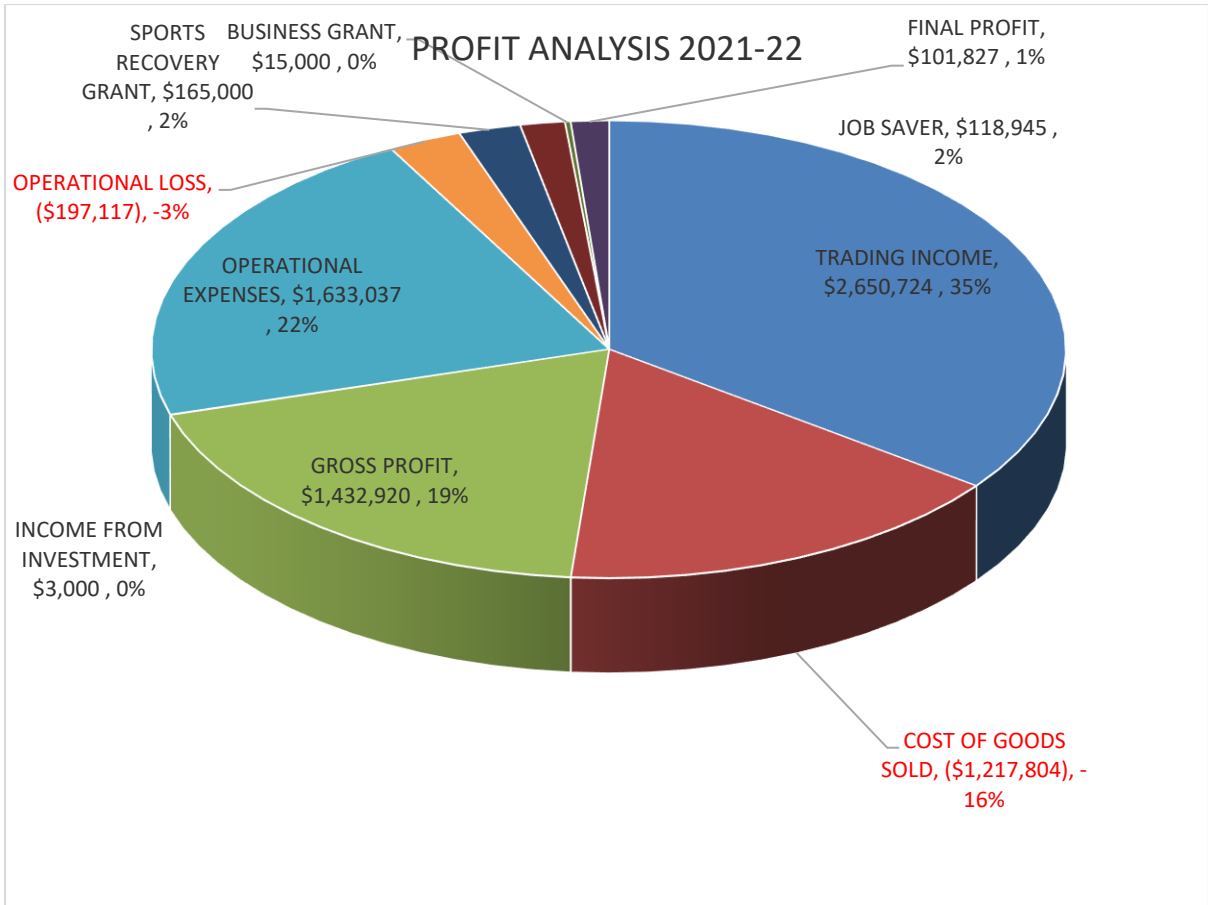
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| • Sport Recovery Grant NSW Government    | \$165,000 |
| • Job keeper/Job saver& Grant Cash Bonus | \$133,945 |

It also noted that during lock down staff costs were reduced, due to a reduction in hours.

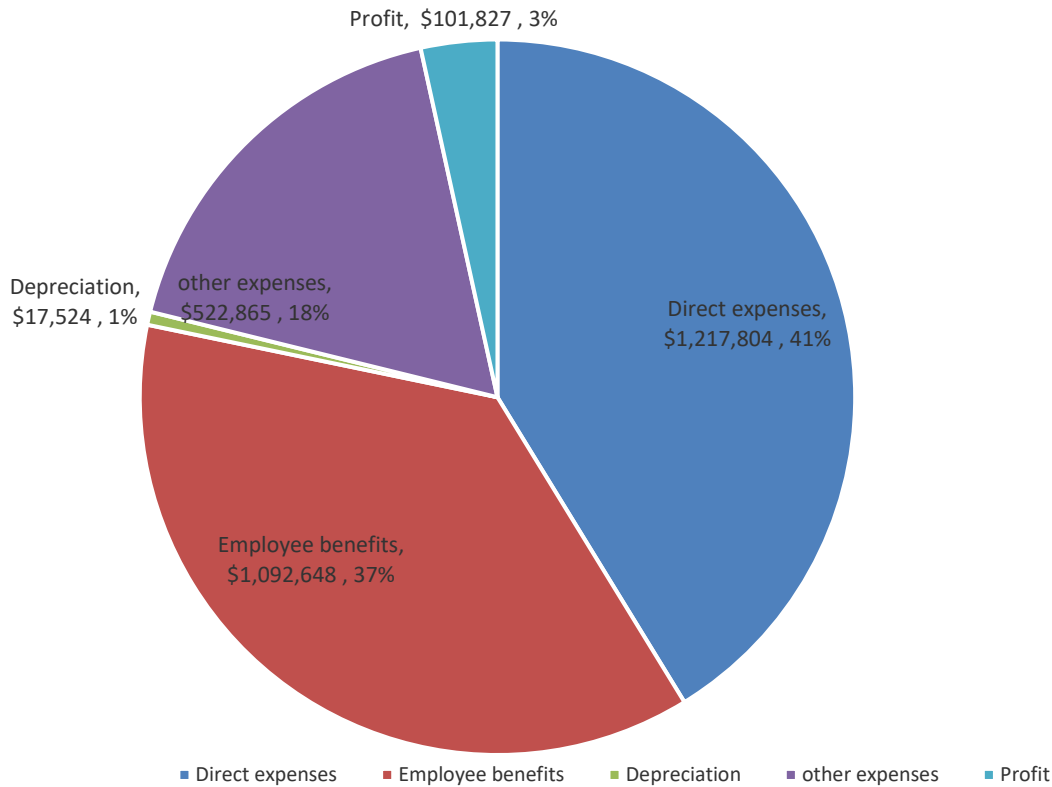
An operational loss of -\$197,117 would have confronted us without these Covid-19 pandemic assistance packages.

NSW Touch also received a further grass roots assistance package of \$123,000 which we forwarded \$1000 to each affiliate and region which we have reflected in the Balance Sheet.

Unfortunately, there is no Government assistance for continued bad weather that has eventually hurt us and all our affiliates.



## REVENUE DISTRIBUTION 2021-22



### Item Revenue from ordinary activities

- Affiliation Fees \$1,877,896
- Junior State Cup South conference \$ 233,771
- Junior Regionals \$ 84,761
- Sponsorship \$ 192,703
- Trading & Sporting schools \$ 174,162
- All Schools & SOO camp \$ 90,431

### Revenue without Government assistance \$2,653,724

We were able to provide the same level of financial support to all our 6 Regional Affiliates in 2021/2022, that is fully finding their development grants. We have budgeted to continue this in 2022/2023. The regions will also now have an option to obtain a debit card under the regions identity with strict protocols set by NSW Touch.

In 2021-2022 financials we have provided accruals for the follows Accounts.

- Referee Development Officer and on Costs \$90,000



- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations \$50,000
- Strategic Plan Implementation \$50,000

We thought these accruals are vital in our business moving forward.

Also looking ahead, we have practically a break-even budget for 2022/2023. With the threat of further pandemic movement predicted, and La-Nina weather conditions also predicted I was reluctant to push unreasonable targets; my hope is that ALL affiliates get back to running park competitions and we can conduct all our tournaments to get touch football back playing with solid numbers making my conservative numbers a nonreality.

Affiliation Fees have not risen in 3 years but in our upcoming budget we felt that we needed to provide a small increase of 5.5% in junior affiliation fees and 1.3% in senior affiliation fees which is well under the current CPI for the period March 2019 – March 2022.

The organisation has been fortunate that it is in a strong position through the Covid-19 pandemic and that it has received considerable financial support from the State Government and support from both the Office of Sport and NSW Sport.

The considerable wet weather experienced over the past 12 months has also placed financial pressure on key revenue lines for NSW Touch, however through responsible and prudent financial management , the organisation remains in good financial shape. The Board continues to closely monitor the financial performance of the business and it is currently reviewing investments options for part of its cash holdings.

I would like to thank our Auditors Denis Jeff and Fiona Jeff from Quality Accounting for their support during difficult times guiding us carefully down the road of proper governance and possible future developments. I look forward to working with them for the next 12 months and strongly recommend we reappoint them for the next 12 months at the Annual General Meeting.

Further I would like to thank General Manager Dean Russell and Financial Manager Satya Puthi in their tireless efforts to help with the Financial Reporting and many budgets we worked on throughout 2021/2022, with the goal posts practically moving monthly during those difficult periods with many scenarios thrown up at us. Great work Dean and Satya many thanks again.

Thanks also to Kylie Hearne and Rob Pidgeon and all the staff at NSW Touch for efforts sometimes under extreme pressure well done guys and thank you.

My fellow Board Members Mark Hearnden, Chris Dolahenty, Ian Matthew and Liz Jackson plus General Manager Dean Russell a huge thank you for support and keeping me honest with many difficult but practical questions. Their support was appreciated and the dedication they show to our sport is unchallenged and its easy and a pleasure to work with them.

All the Volunteers and Affiliate Presidents, Committee Members, Coaches, Referees and Administrators a huge thank you during unprecedented times please keep chipping away at your

affiliate and any financial assistance I could give to your affiliate, please do not hesitate to contact me personally at NSW Touch. Our game does not survive without your support.

Finally, if personally approached I would further comment on our financial position and look forward to seeing you all at the Golden Jubilee Dinner and State Conference.

**Roderick Hetherington**

# Financial Statements

New South Wales Touch Association Inc  
ABN 22 502 830 336  
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Prepared by QA Taxation and Business Development

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# Income and Expenditure Statement

## New South Wales Touch Association Inc For the year ended 30 June 2022

	NOTES	2022	2021
<b>Classification of Expenses by Nature</b>			
Revenues from Ordinary Activities	2	2,952,669	4,323,671
Direct Expenses		(1,217,804)	(2,066,598)
Employee Benefits Expense		(1,092,648)	(939,283)
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense		(17,524)	(40,998)
Other Expenses from Ordinary Activities		(522,865)	(591,507)
<b>Profit (Loss) from Ordinary activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>101,827</b>	<b>685,287</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Balance Sheet

## New South Wales Touch Association Inc As at 30 June 2022

	NOTES	30 JUN 2022	30 JUN 2021
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	3,066,257	3,206,239
Trade and Other Receivables	4	97,344	38,111
Inventories	5	6,380	6,380
Other	6	67,947	19,882
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>3,237,927</b>	<b>3,270,612</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property Plant and Equipment	7	21,619	47,052
Investments	7	1,199	1,434
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>22,818</b>	<b>48,487</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>3,260,745</b>	<b>3,319,098</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Credit Card</b>			
Amex DR NSW Touch Association		5,055	3,139
<b>Total Credit Card</b>		<b>5,055</b>	<b>3,139</b>
Trade and Other Payables	8	169,585	271,141
Provisions	9	172,089	154,113
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>346,730</b>	<b>428,392</b>
Non-Current Liabilities	10	92,573	171,092
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>439,303</b>	<b>599,484</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>2,821,442</b>	<b>2,719,614</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
<b>Retained Earnings</b>			
Current Year Earnings		101,827	685,287
Retained Earnings		2,719,614	2,034,328
<b>Total Retained Earnings</b>		<b>2,821,442</b>	<b>2,719,614</b>
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>		<b>2,821,442</b>	<b>2,719,614</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## New South Wales Touch Association Inc For the year ended 30 June 2022

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commissions Act 2012, and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commissions Regulations 2013.

The financial report covers New South Wales Touch Association Incorporated as an individual entity. It is an association incorporated in New South Wales under the Association Incorporation Act 1984.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the considerations given in exchange for assets.

The financial report of New South Wales Touch Association Incorporated complies with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in their entirety.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The accounting policies set out below have been consistently applied to all years presented.

#### Income Tax

Under section 50.45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, non-profit sporting associations established for the promotion or encouragement of a sport or game are exempt from income tax. On that basis income tax has not been provided for in these accounts.

#### Inventories

Inventories consist of merchandise and publications and are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned on a specific identification basis and include direct costs and appropriate overheads, if any.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment are carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

##### *Plant and equipment*

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by Association to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which

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These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

#### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a diminishing value and straight line basis over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

<b>CLASS OF FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>DEPRECIATION</b>
Motor Vehicles	22.50%
Plant and equipment	20%
Furniture & Equipment	40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount.

These gains and losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

#### **Impairment of Assets**

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

#### **Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related on-costs. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred

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These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



## Cash and cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash includes cash on hand and at call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months and net of bank overdrafts.

## Revenue and Other Income

Revenue from the sale of goods and services is recognised upon the delivery of the goods and services to customers.

Interest revenue is recognized on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the raising of a valid tax invoice in the name of the customer.

## Leases

Leases of PPE, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset (but not the legal ownership) are transferred to the association, are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for that period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

## Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

## Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

	2022	2021
<b>2. Revenues from Ordinary Activities</b>		
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Membership Subscriptions	1,877,896	2,178,002
Tournaments	510,696	1,451,479

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	2022	2021
Sponsorship	192,703	305,055
Trading Income	67,393	46,789
Other Income Received	167,284	15,237
Covid 19 Government Assistance	133,945	314,450
<b>Total Operating Activities</b>	<b>2,949,916</b>	<b>4,311,012</b>
<b>Non Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Interest Received</b>		
Interest - Cheque Account	199	192
Interest - Investments	2,553	12,467
<b>Total Interest Received</b>	<b>2,752</b>	<b>12,659</b>
<b>Total Non Operating Activities</b>	<b>2,752</b>	<b>12,659</b>
<b>Total Revenues from Ordinary Activities</b>	<b>2,952,669</b>	<b>4,323,671</b>
	2022	2021

### 3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

<b>Assets</b>		
Cash On Hand	1,600	1,600
Cash at Bank	1,725,710	1,854,245
<b>Cash on Deposit</b>		
TD for Strategy planning	50,015	-
TD for 50 Anniversary	50,015	-
Term Deposits in Transit	-	114,000
Investment Account LSL	104,725	104,047
Term Deposit for world cup	17,304	17,193
Term Deposit	46,561	46,263
Term Deposit ex Custody account	1,070,326	1,068,891
<b>Total Cash on Deposit</b>	<b>1,338,946</b>	<b>1,350,394</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,066,257</b>	<b>3,206,239</b>
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>3,066,257</b>	<b>3,206,239</b>
	2022	2021

### 4. Trade and Other Receivables

Trade Receivables	97,344	23,774
Other Receivables	-	14,338
<b>Total Trade and Other Receivables</b>	<b>97,344</b>	<b>38,111</b>
	2022	2021

### 5. Inventories

Publications, Supplies and Bar Stock at Cost	6,380	6,380
<b>Total Inventories</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>6,380</b>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	2022	2021
<b>6. Other</b>		
<b>Other Assets</b>		
<b>Prepayments</b>		
Prepayments	51,252	-
Prepayments Insurance	10,872	11,227
<b>Total Prepayments</b>	<b>62,124</b>	<b>11,227</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
FBT Instalments Paid	5,070	8,655
Refund of Overpayments Due	753	-
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>5,823</b>	<b>8,655</b>
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>67,947</b>	<b>19,882</b>
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>67,947</b>	<b>19,882</b>
	2022	2021

## 7. Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles and Investments

<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
Plant and Equipment	559,063	589,592
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(537,445)	(542,540)
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>21,619</b>	<b>47,052</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
IAG Shares	1,199	1,434
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,434</b>
<b>Total Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles and Investments</b>	<b>22,818</b>	<b>48,487</b>
	2022	2021

## 8. Trade and Other Payables

<b>Trade Payables</b>		
Trade Creditors and Accruals	140,035	232,420
GST Liability	29,550	38,721
<b>Total Trade Payables</b>	<b>169,585</b>	<b>271,141</b>
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>	<b>169,585</b>	<b>271,141</b>
	2022	2021

## 9. Provisions

Long Service Leave Provision	94,180	82,021
Provision for Accrued Annual Leave	77,909	72,092
<b>Total Provisions</b>	<b>172,089</b>	<b>154,113</b>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	2022	2021
<b>10. Non Current Liabilities</b>		
Prepaid Fees by members/Affiliates	48,000	15,431
Provision for 50th Anniversary	-	50,000
Provision for world cup	-	14,000
Sports Recovery & Her Sport Her Way Grant	19,573	21,953
Sports Recovery package Gross Roots	25,000	4,000
Strategy planning	-	50,000
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>	<b>92,573</b>	<b>155,384</b>

Number of Employees in 2021    15            Number of Employees in 2022    15

## 11. Segment Reporting

The Association's Activities are the conduct of Touch Football Australia (Sporting Association) in New South Wales, Australia.

## 12. Company Details

The Principal place of business of the Association is

New South Wales Touch Association Incorporated  
 Bayview Avenue  
 Earlwood NSW 2206

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Movements in Equity

## New South Wales Touch Association Inc For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings as the beginning of the Financial Year	2,719,614	2,034,328
<b>Increases</b>		
Profit for the Period	101,827	685,287
<b>Total Increases</b>	<b>101,827</b>	<b>685,287</b>
<b>Retained Earning at the End of the Financial Year</b>	<b>2,821,442</b>	<b>2,719,614</b>

# Cash Flow Statement

## New South Wales Touch Association Inc For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
<b>Comparison Cash flow</b>		
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts	3,505,192	4,406,436
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(3,643,220)	(3,716,607)
Interest Recieved	2,752	12,659
Interest Paid	(1,025)	(1,705)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(136,301)</b>	<b>700,783</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Proceed on Sale of Property Plant and Equipment	10,336	-
Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment	-	3,624
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>10,336</b>	<b>3,624</b>
Net Increase (decrease)in cash held	(146,637)	697,159
Cash at the beginning of the year	3,206,239	2,509,080
Cash at the end of the year	3,059,602	3,206,239

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



2a Minorca Place, Toormina  
PO Box 1000, Toormina NSW 2452

t. (02) 6658 1655

e. [admin@qualityaccounting.com.au](mailto:admin@qualityaccounting.com.au)

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- Bookkeeping & Payroll

30 September 2022

The Committee  
New South Wales Touch Association Inc  
PO Box 27  
Bardwell Park NSW 2207

Dear Committee Members,

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Members of New South Wales Touch Association Inc

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

**Opinion**

I have audited the financial report of New South Wales Touch Association Inc, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entities declaration.

In my opinion the financial report of New South Wales Touch Association Inc has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012, including:

- (a) Giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

## **Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

## **Other Information**

The responsible entities are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the registered entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Responsibilities of Responsible Entities for the Financial Report**

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, responsible entities are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The responsible entities are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.


## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.



- As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism through throughout the audit. I also:
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detection a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for on resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entity's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the responsible entities regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



30/9/2022

Denis Jeff  
Registered Company Auditor #3408



Thursday, September 22, 2022

# New South Wales Touch Association Board Nomination

Nominations close 5 October 2022

[Refer to Board Policy here](#)  
[Refer to NSWTA Constitution here](#)  
[Refer to the NSWTA Board Charter 2022 here](#)

Please submit a copy of your resume and a current profile photo at the end of this nomination.

<b>Date of Nomination</b>	Thursday, September 22, 2022
<b>Name</b>	Mark Hearnden
<b>Address</b>	106 Sutherland Road Jannali, NSW, 2226
<b>Email</b>	hearndo11@gmail.com
<b>Mobile Phone Number</b>	(0477) 346882
<b>Position Sought</b>	<input type="text" value="Interested Director"/>

## Statement of Claim for Role Sought

I have had the privilege of being on the NSWTA board for eight years with six of those being as the Board appointed Independent Director and the last two as member elected NSWTA President and then Board elected Chairperson.

Over the past two years in particular, our sport in NSW has experienced unprecedented challenges of the interruptions to its delivery caused by COVID-19 and more recently adverse weather conditions which has led to major flooding resulting in the postponement and cancellation of many events and competitions. I am proud of how the NSWTA has navigated and managed our sport throughout this period. Many difficult and potentially unpopular decisions were made by the Board of NSWTA, and they were made with the best interests of the game at the forefront of our thinking. We made some mistakes and we learnt from them.

Despite the crazy experiences we have endured over the past several years, the game in NSW is in good shape and it well positioned to recover thanks primarily to the wonderful efforts and contributions of our amazing volunteer community and our team of hard-working staff.

It has been an honour to serve as a board member for the past 8 years and I would be thrilled to be elected for a further 2-year term.

## Core Competencies

Refer to Core Competencies in NSWTA Board Charter

[Refer to Board Policy here](#)  
[Refer to NSWTA Constitution here](#)  
[Refer to the NSWTA Board Charter 2022 here](#)

### 1. Demonstrated leadership at a senior level in an environment compatible with the requirements of NSWTA;

Served as NSWTA Board elected Independent Director Sept 2014 with annual reappointment to Nov

2020

Served as member elected NSWTA President and then Board elected Chairperson (Nov 2020 to present)

I have held General Manager roles for in excess of 12 years in aggregate and senior leadership roles for in excess of 25 years.

I appreciate the responsibilities of leadership that being a NSWTA board member entails. I have maintained strong professional relationships for many years with key stakeholders of the game including those associated with Touch Football Australia, Queensland Touch Association, the Alliance States & Territories and NSWTA including Referees, Selectors, Coaching and our Regions and

**2. Demonstrated commitment to strong governance principles and an understanding and appreciation of the duties and responsibilities of the role of Director demonstrated by membership of the AICD or relevant education or experience serving on or working with other Boards of Directors; and**

AICD member & graduate of AICD Company Directors Course.

I have served as member elected NSWTA President and then Board elected Chairperson (Nov 2020 to present). Prior to this, I served as the NSWTA Board elected Independent Director commencing in Sept 2014 with annual reappointment to Nov 2020.

During my 8-year tenure on the NSWTA Board, I have strongly advocated for the strict adherence to industry recognised good corporate governance practices.

I have held the position of Executive Director of Sydney Dogs & Cats Home (SDCH) during my tenure as General Manager (Aug 2020 – Oct 2021). SDCH is a Not-For-Profit charity pound operating within the animal welfare sector. I also served as member appointed Director of the Animal Welfare League Australia for the same period.

Also, during my 11-year tenure as General Manager of Kingsway Group Limited (KGL), I was Responsible Manager & Compliance Officer for the organisation. KGL was an Australian Financial Services License holder operating in the \$20B mortgage trust sector. KGL acted as a Responsible Entity or fund manager for two mortgage trusts. The role had a heavy governance and compliance focus. Responsibilities also included the preparation and maintenance of board meeting documentation including meeting agenda, board papers and board meeting minutes.

**3. A commitment to and record of ethical behaviour including not having been the subject of an adverse finding or the current subject of an inquiry or investigation by any statutory, regulatory or law enforcement authority or agency including any Touch related disciplinary body relating to any serious ethical matter;**

I have been fortunate to be involved with the game of Touch Football for nearly 40 years. I have enjoyed the numerous roles that I have experienced during this time which includes that of player, referee, coach, selector, parent, fan and more recently as a NSWTA board member.

The value that I place on ethical behaviour and personal integrity cannot be understated. These are core personal values of mine that I attribute to my association with Touch Football. The game is about many things, but at its core, in my opinion, is personal integrity. It has shaped who I am, and I have carried these values throughout my life (work & personal).

The various senior leadership roles that I have held throughout my working career have also required the highest standards of ethical behaviour and personal integrity.

**4. Possess the skills identified by the Board as essential criteria for the Director role nominated for**

I have a very high attendance record for NSWTA Board meetings & events.

In my role as Chair of NSWTA over the past 2 years, I was heavily involved with the development of the current strategic plan and now actively monitor business performance against this plan. In other

leadership roles I have held within business, I have considerable experience with strategic planning and implementation.

My career experience supports my compliance with meeting the administrative and management requirements of the role. I have considerable experience with financial management & reporting, contract negotiation and management as well as relationship management.

My past two roles have included fundraising responsibilities for the organisation including campaign development & management as well as donor relationship management.

**Nominator** Rod Hetherington - Parramatta

**Secunder** Craig May - Taren Point

We confirm the above named meet the requirements of the NSWTA Constitution.

**We confirm the above named meet the requirements of the NSWTA Constitution**  Yes

**I express my willingness to accept the position nominated**  Yes

**Affiliate President Signature** To Follow

**Upload your resume**  Mark Hearnden - Resume - (2... .pdf

**Upload a current profile (head and shoulders) photo**



## Career Profile

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A versatile and highly motivated professional business leader with an engaging style, leadership skills, corporate governance discipline as well as financial management and insight. This unique combination of skills and experience gained in various senior leadership roles including General Management & Company Directorship.

Broad commercial experience developed across banking, funds management, health services delivery and animal welfare industries. Successfully achieved results across a wide range of organisations from small/medium size business, not-for-profit & large publicly listed companies.

## Key Competencies

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- Calm, considered, engaging & effective leadership style
- Relationship and stakeholder management
- Outstanding communication skills
- Highly developed business and financial acumen
- Corporate governance and compliance
- Intelligent naivety

## Achievements

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- Leadership. As General Manager of a not-for-profit animal welfare organisation, I delivered calm, considered & effective leadership during a period of considerable upheaval for the organisation. Working closely with the board, management, and business key stakeholders, I successfully managed the business facing material challenges including staff burn-out, trust issues between the board & the business, disgruntled key customers, the threat of eviction, business relocation, a major capital fundraising campaign & COVID-19.
- Change Management – As General Manager of a medium sized financial services business, I successfully initiated and implemented the rebranding and relocation of the business. This involved comprehensive project management and included extensive customer and stakeholder engagement. The successful business re-branding contributed to continued business growth (total funds under management) and increased returns to shareholders.
- Compliance Management Framework – As Compliance Officer and Responsible Person for an AFSL holder, responsible for the establishment and management of a compliance management framework for a Responsible Entity operating in the \$20 billion mortgage trust sector. ‘Face of the business’ responsibilities included liaison with industry regulator (ASIC), Compliance Committee, scheme auditors and independent research houses.

## Career Experience

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<b>Strategic Advisor – Program Transformation</b>	Diabetes Australia	Aug 2022 – present
<b>General Manager/Executive Director</b>	Sydney Dogs & Cats Home	Aug 2020 – Oct 2021
<b>Non-executive Director (Chair)</b>	NSW Touch Football (NFP)	Oct 2014 – present
<b>Head of Service Providers</b>	Medibank	Sep 2015 – Dec 2019
<b>Head of Provider Networks</b>	Medibank Health Solutions	Nov 2011 – Sep 2015
<b>General Manager</b>	Kingsway Group Ltd	Feb 2000 – Apr 2011

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## CAREER EXPERIENCE

### Diabetes Australia

Aug 2022 – present

#### *Strategic Advisor – Program Transformation*

##### **Role:**

Diabetes Australia is a group of 'For Purpose' Not-For-Profit charity organisations dedicated to reducing the incidence & impact of diabetes on people, health systems and society.

The role will contribute to the organisation by reviewing the membership and fundraising capabilities and by the development of a plan for the achievement of strategy and budget.

### Sydney Dogs & Cats Home

Aug 2020 – Oct 2021

#### *General Manager/Executive Director*

##### **Role:**

Sydney Dogs & Cats Home (SDCH) is Sydney's only charity pound and community facility. Servicing eight Sydney councils, SDCH provides shelter, food & veterinary care to primarily dogs and cats operating under the NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 associated regulations and codes. SDCH cares for these pets until such time they can be reunited with their owners or found a suitable new home. The business generates revenue (circa \$2m pa) from fees charged to Councils and the community for its services and from fundraising activities.

The role included responsibility for operational management of the business including leadership, stakeholder engagement, culture, governance, process optimization and change management.

##### **Key achievements:**

- Leadership. Delivered calm, considered & effective leadership during a period of considerable upheaval for the organisation. Working closely with the board, management, and business key stakeholders, successfully managed the business facing material challenges including staff burn-out, trust issues between the board & the business, disgruntled key customers, the threat of eviction, business relocation, a major capital fundraising campaign & COVID-19.
- Enhanced corporate governance. Upon appointment identified WH&S, contract management and licensing as key business risks. Working closely with the board & the leadership team, the required executive focus supported by business investment addressed these issues in a timely manner.
- Stakeholder relationship remediation. Prioritised rebuilding relationships with key commercial partners (Councils) which had deteriorated under previous management. Engagement & retention strategy developed & successfully implemented retaining revenue lines which represented 45% of business revenue. Also prioritised relationships with volunteer networks, donors & pro-bono professional service providers.
- Prudent financial management. Prioritised the introduction responsible financial management protocols including management developed budget, monthly actual to budget reporting & analysis, board reporting etc. Achieved management 'buy-in' & ownership of budget & results which had been lacking as well as stimulating board discussion on financial management issues.

***Head of Service Providers, Overseas Products*****Role:**

Medibank provides private health insurance to visitors to Australia including working visa holders and international students studying in Australia. Annual policy sales > \$120m.

The role included responsibility for the management of primary care health providers who serviced Medibank and ahm international visitor members. Responsibilities also included involvement in key business tenders (university sector), claiming behaviour analysis and presentations to external parties & the management of 24/7 telehealth service contracts for the business.

**Key Achievements:**

- Consolidation of the delivery of 24/7 telehealth services to a single provider which delivered a best in market product offering whilst delivering business costs savings of 25% pa
- Responded to an urgent business opportunity to successfully stand-up a new student 24/7 telehealth service for a strategic partner within 7 days (led to successful partnership acquisition circa \$10m pa)
- Incident management. The successful coordination of the business remediation response to a failed claim processing re-platform which was damaging the business brand, led to the retention of major referral partner contracts (>\$20m)
- Secondment to Garrison Health Services tender team as Supply Stream Lead (13 supply lines circa \$200m pa). 3<sup>rd</sup> Lead in 4 months. Delivered calm & effective leadership under pressure to stabilise the underperforming stream resulting in successful progression through to the next round of the tender process

**Medibank Health Solutions (MHS)****Nov 2011 – Sep 2015*****Head of Service Providers*****Role:**

MHS provided an extensive range of health services to business government and communities across Australia & New Zealand. With a team of over 1,500 health professionals, MHS delivered more than 3 million healthcare interactions pa, over the phone, online and face-to-face.

The role included management of key national subcontractors including radiology & pathology service providers as well as a national GP network in support of the Immigration Visa Medical Contract with the Dept. of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP).

**Key Achievements:**

- Successfully implemented a comprehensive review of the regional GP & radiology service provider network in support the visa medical contract with DIBP.
- Process remediation initiatives introduced significantly reduced contract risk and increased business revenue by \$0.5m pa.
- Introduced changed business practices, including detailed contract management framework for national service provider contracts (pathology & radiology) that significantly reduced operational, compliance & contract risks to major Immigration and Workplace Health business lines (aggregate value >\$45m pa)



**Description of the Company:**

AFSL holder operating within the \$20B mortgage trust sector as Responsible Entity for two mortgage trusts. Funds raised from retail investors via product disclosure statements would typically be lent to commercial borrowers and secured by a registered first mortgage over property. Retail investors would acquire units or interests in the underlying fund entitling them to a regular return.

The business experienced significant profit growth under my stewardship and provided excellent returns to stakeholders. Total funds under management across the two funds grew from \$80m to \$185m. Total loans drawn from Feb 2000 exceeded \$750m.

**Key Achievements:**

- Successfully introduced and maintained a new culture of compliance & corporate governance via the introduction of rigorous operational, compliance and quality assurance practices supported by regular training and development of staff. High compliance standards recognised by external auditors and industry regulator ASIC.
- Introduced changed business practices (review of revenue model) which led to a 30% increase to company profits within six months of appointment.
- Consistent high profit generation achieved through prudent financial management including comprehensive budget planning and regular performance briefings to Board. Aggregate NPBT exceeded \$16.5m.
- Ensured that at all times the company maintained and was fully compliant with all aspects of it's of AFSL conditions through regular quality assurance testing. Such compliance was critical to the ongoing viability of the Kingsway business.
- Introduced new risk management disciplines to lending practices which resulted in an improvement to the risk profile of the lending portfolio which was welcomed by investors, product research houses and our Bank.
- Initiated the development and implementation of a new unit trust investment vehicle to diversify the existing product offering and reduce the sole reliance on a highly administrative and costly fund that led to cost savings of 20%. This project ultimately included the successful migration of over 1,000 investors to the new fund.
- Through competent management resulting in the consistent delivery of above benchmark returns to investors, achieved substantial growth in total funds under management of 130% from \$80m to \$185m representing a major driver to profit growth.
- Initiated and implemented the successful rebranding and relocation of the business. The creation of an independent brand from that of the associated legal practice was embraced by investors and included the creation of a new corporate name and logo, stationery, signage, merchandising, website, advertising material and a regular investor newsletter.
- High standards of customer service delivered to customers at all times. Involved dealing with over 1,000 investors comprising high net worth individuals, self-managed superannuation funds, companies and retirees. Borrowers included individual and corporate borrowers who were typically involved in the property development sector.
- Coordinated independent investment product reviews that resulted in Approved Product ratings being achieved for the flagship fund. This initiative was designed to contribute to the growth in funds under management by enabling the business to tap into the financial planning sector.

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## **Education**

- Accredited Talent Coach
- Accredited Talent (Level 2) Referee
- Accredited (Level 2) NSW Selector
- RG 146 Compliance - Managed Investments (FEP)
- Regulation of Australian Financial Services (FEP)
- AICD Directors Course (Australian Institute of Company Directors)
- Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment (FINSIA)
- Certificate in Financial Markets (FINSIA)

## **Memberships**

- Fellow (F Fin) Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FINSIA)
- Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD)

## **Directorship**

- Non-Executive Director (Chair), NSW Touch Association (Sept 2014 to present)
- Executive Director, Sydney Dogs and Cats Home (Aug 2020 to Oct 2021)
- Director, Animal Welfare League Australia (Aug 2020 to Oct 2021)



Wednesday, October 5, 2022

# New South Wales Touch Association Board Nomination

Nominations close 5 October 2022

Refer to Board Policy here  
Refer to NSWTA Constitution here  
Refer to the NSWTA Board Charter 2022 here

Please submit a copy of your resume and a current profile photo at the end of this nomination.

**Date of Nomination** Wednesday, October 5, 2022

**Name** Ian Matthew

**Address** 149 Cove Blvd  
North Arm Cove, NSW, 2324

**Email** ian@breezmat.com.au

**Mobile Phone Number** (0418276105 ) 499-73165

**Position Sought** Interested Director with the responsibility of Technical

## Statement of Claim for Role Sought

Technical Director

## Core Competencies

Refer to Core Competencies in NSWTA Board Charter

Refer to Board Policy here  
Refer to NSWTA Constitution here  
Refer to the NSWTA Board Charter 2022 here

### 1. Demonstrated leadership at a senior level in an environment compatible with the requirements of NSWTA;

Yes

### 2. Demonstrated commitment to strong governance principles and an understanding and appreciation of the duties and responsibilities of the role of Director demonstrated by membership of the AICD or relevant education or experience serving on or working with other Boards of Directors; and

Yes

### 3. A commitment to and record of ethical behaviour including not having been the subject of an adverse finding or the current subject of an inquiry or investigation by any statutory, regulatory or law enforcement authority or agency including any Touch related disciplinary body relating to any serious ethical matter;

yes

### 4. Possess the skills identified by the Board as essential criteria for the Director role nominated for

Yes

**Nominator**

NSWTA

**Secunder**

Chris Dolahenty

We confirm the above named meet the requirements of the NSWTA Constitution.

**We confirm the above named meet the requirements of the NSWTA Constitution**

Yes

**I express my willingness to accept the position nominated**

Yes

IAN MATTHEW

Retired

I have been a part of the NSWTA Board for quite a period of time now and during that time I have seen many changes within the sport.

I have enjoyed almost every minute of this time and am still enthusiastic, keen and motivated for the role.

It's challenging but rewarding with being a part of the decision making that drives our sport within our state and across the nation.

The technical area is an area I really believe in and I also believe that this is what the sport is built on and especially at park level.

Part of this role is on the development of systems that create better opportunities for all technical disciplines and provide a stronger direction for the educational processes to take place.



Retired Company Director

NSWTA Technical Director 1998 - Present.

NSWTA Referee Director 1992 – Present

Member of NSWTA Board for past 19 years

FIT Director of Referees

NSWTA Life Member

Campbelltown TA Life Member

TFA Life Member

National Referees Panel Member

Member of the Maritime Rescue



# NOTICE OF MOTION

## MOTION FOR AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

Notice is given to all Members that it is proposed to alter the Constitution of New South Wales Touch Association Incorporated (**Association**) at the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 5 November 2022.

The premise behind the proposed change is to bring our governance in line with the SportAus best practice, provide gender inclusion to access a diverse Board and align with the SportAus Governance principles.

Over the past 4 months the NSWTA has been working with Sport NSW to look at ensuring that we move the organisation toward a Gender Inclusive Board. Importantly looking to ensure that we remain in line with best practice and guidelines attached to SportAus Governance Standards. As part of this process the Board agreed that the replacement Independent Director must be female to ensure a second female Board member was appointed.

From discussion with Sport NSW and the Office of Sport, several sports are looking to achieve best practice via the 40:40:20 principle. That is that the 40% of the Board is made up of men, 40% of the Board is made up of women, and the remaining 20% made up of either gender. This is the same principle that is used in the TFA Board Charter. SportAus' suggested principles for best governance states *"the board, while ensuring the prevailing criterion for election is eligibility, skills, expertise and experience should be composed in a manner such that no gender accounts for more than 60% of the total number of Directors."* Research into other state sporting organisations showed differing models, all aimed with achieving the similar goal of meaningful gender representation on the Board. The NSWTA Board has been moving in this direction over the past few months to align with the desired principle. It is the Boards goal in to have an inclusive Board representative of the membership.

From a numerical perspective with the current Board make up, being four Interested Directors (elected by the members) and two Independent Directors (appointed by the Board), it is difficult to have exact parity to these principles. As such to have exact parity to the principles, a further Interested Director position (General), moving from four to five, would be required. This would move the Board from six members to seven, thus being able to meet these principles.

An overview of the proposed change is:

### Current Board Governance

Interested Director	General, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Country, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Finance, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Technical, elected for 2 year term
Independent Director-	Appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term
Independent Director-	Appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term

### Proposed Board Governance

Interested Director	General, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	General, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Country, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Finance, elected for 2 year term
Interested Director	Technical, elected for 2 year term

Independent Director- Appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term  
Independent Director- Appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term

Ensuring gender diversity, therefore the minimum representation on the Board of either gender would be 40%.

The rationale for the amendments is as follows:

- The Board throughout this year the Board, via engagement with Sport NSW, has been working toward a Board structure that is aligned with our gender representation within the sport (over 40% of the membership being female).
- To adopt a structure that closely aligns with the principle of current governance best practice.
- Move the Board to be a representative of the gender diversity of our community.
- To align in principle with the SportAus Governance Standards and advice provided by Sport NSW.
- To align in principle Touch Football Australia approach to gender diversity at Board level.
- Ensures that the Board is a gender diverse group of people who collectively provide different perspectives and experience to facilitate more considered decision-making.

**The following motions are moved by the Board of the New South Wales Touch Association (inc) as Special Resolutions under clause 3 of the Association Constitution: -**

1. **THAT** Clause 25.3 (b) be amended to delete the following:

The Interested Director with the responsibility of Finance and one (1) other Interested Director, being Country shall be elected, in each year of odd number and the Interested Director with the responsibility of Technical and one (1) other Interested Director shall be elected, in each year of even number.

And replace with the following sentence at in its place:

The Interested Director with the responsibility of Finance, one (1) other Interested Director, being Country, and one (1) other Interested Director shall be elected in each year of odd number and the Interested Director with the responsibility of Technical and one (1) other Interested Director shall be elected, in each year of even number.

2. **THAT** the following be added as Clause 24.2

#### **24.2 Gender Diversity**

At any given time, a minimum 40% of the Board must be of each gender.

**Moved Mark Hearnden Chair**

**Seconded Chris Dolahenty Director**

If the motions are passed its effect is from the 2023 Annual General Meeting.



Tuesday, October 4, 2022

# New South Wales Touch Association Notice of Special Resolution

Nominations close 5 October 2022

Refer to [New South Wales Touch Association Constitution](#)

<b>Date of Nomination</b>	Sunday, April 10, 2022
<b>From</b>	Jim Randall
<b>Name of Association</b>	northernbeachestouch@gmail.com
<b>Email</b>	northernbeachestouch@gmail.com
<b>Clause/s of NSWTA Constitution to be amended</b>	Clause 24.1 and 25.3 (b)

## Reason for Amendment

Notice is given to all Members that it is proposed to alter the constitution of New South Wales Touch Association Incorporated (Association) at the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 5 November 2022.

The premise behind the proposed change is to bring equity and diversity to the board that better reflects the representation of women in the sport. Women currently make up 42% of players playing Touch in NSW and there are currently no elected women on the board. The proposed amendment to the constitution would also ensure at least one woman holds a position on the board.

Current trends in the community are recognising the importance and benefits of women involvement at all levels of the sport including the administration and leadership.

This motion under clause 18 of the NSWTA constitution will increase the elected positions of the board from four Interested Directors to five Interested Directors. The new election of an Interested Director Women position, if adopted, will be implemented at the next AGM.

The current Board Governance is:

- Interested Director General, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Country, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Finance, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Technical, elected for 2 year term
- Up to two Independent Directors - appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term.

The new proposed Board Governance will be:

- Interested Director General, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Technical, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Women, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Country, elected for 2 year term
- Interested Director Finance, elected for 2 year term
- Up to two Independent Directors - appointed by the Interested Directors for a 12month term.

## Special Resolution/s

The following motion is moved by Northern Beaches Touch Association as Special Resolutions under clause 3 of the Association Constitution:

That Clause 24.1 be amended to read



## 24.1 Board Composition

The position of Chairperson will be elected from Interested Directors as per Rule 28.7.

The Board shall comprise of:

- (a) the Director General (an Interested Director) elected in accordance with Rule 25;
- (b) the Director of Technical (an interested Director) elected in accordance with Rule 25;
- (c) the Director of Women (an interested Director) elected in accordance with Rule 25;
- (d) the Director of Country (an interested Director) elected in accordance with Rule 25;
- (e) the Director of Finance (an Interested Director) elected in accordance with Rule 25;
- (f) A minimum of (1) and maximum of two (2) Independent Director/s which shall be appointed in accordance with Rule 26. An Independent Director may not serve as Chairperson.

THAT Clause 25.3 (b) be amended to the following:

The Interested Director with the responsibility of Finance and two (2) other Interested Director, being Women and Country shall be elected, in each year of odd number and the Interested Director with the responsibility of Technical and one (1) other General Interested Director shall be elected, in each year of even number

If this motion is carried its effect is immediate.

### **Moved By**

Georgia Randall

### **Seconded By**

Peter Smith

We confirm the above named meet the requirements of the NSWTA Consitution.

**We confirm the above named meet  
the requirements of the NSWTA  
Constitution**

Yes

### **Affiliate President Signature**





## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The NSW Touch Association would like to recognise and thank those who have supported the organisation throughout 2021-22.

**All New South Wales Touch Association Affiliates, Regions,  
their members and NSWTA Volunteers**

**Touch Football Australia & Queensland Touch Football**

**Office of Sport - Sport NSW - NRL - NSWRL**

**Hastings Council, Wagga Wagga Council, Central Coast Council,  
Coffs Harbour City Council**

**ISC**

**Budgy Smuggler**

**Hyperactive Clothing**

**Steeden**

**Canterbury Bankstown Council**

**Dr. Anne Drinkwater, Steve Cunningham and the NSWTA Medical Team**

**All the grassroot Volunteers who have assisted us throughout 2021-22**