**UC Hockey Club** 

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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# BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As another season comes to an end it is good to look at the highlights of 2018 and make some recommendations for next year.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the Board and the Coordinators of the club, listed on the previous page. Without this group's valuable time the club wouldn't run smoothly and be able to achieve the success that we have on and off the field. Being on the BoM can be quite thankless as people only speak up when there is an issue. I would encourage everyone between now and Pres Night to appreciate the amount of work that goes into running the club and take the time to thank every board member.

#### On Field

We nominated the same teams as 2017 based on membership numbers from last year. As the season approached we became concerned about our women's numbers. At this stage we investigated withdrawing the women's SL4 team. However, we were too late for this and as per Hockey ACT's rules full competition fees are charged when a team withdraws after the final draw is published. Some great work from Meaghan Clack resulted in a lot of ex-players becoming casual players and helping the SL4 team throughout the season. This ensured the team was able to field a team each week. I know this has resulted in lower numbers for women's teams each week, especially the SL3 and SL4 teams, which I know can be frustrating for players and coaches. I would like to thank Meaghan for her wok recruiting players, everyone who has helped by filling in for teams other than their own throughout the year and especially the coaches who managed to get teams on the field week in week out.

On the men's side our numbers have been steadily growing over the past few years and it is recommended that next year's BoM discusses whether to nominate an extra men's team for 2019.

At the time of writing there are seven teams in finals contention (MCL2, MSL2, MSL3, MSL4, MW, WSL1B, WSL4) good luck to all these teams in finals. Regardless of your team's results this year I hope everyone had a great season and will be back for a bigger and better 2019!

#### Off Field

#### Communication

We have again set communication as a goal this year and have used the weekly Devils Digest email and social media accounts to communicate to the club. We have again encouraged teams to post their results and 'Players Player' after each game and this year we asked teams to include photos of the winner in their posts. This was then shared on our website, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

The BoM are often criticised for not communicating with members well enough, so we have introduced a number of tools for people to communicate with us if there are any issues. These include, having the BoM's contact details on all Devils Digest emails, introducing a Midseason Q&A, and implementing a feedback form for people to use anonymously. These are some simple ways for members to share their views and I would encourage people to use them if they have questions or concerns. With a club this size there is always the chance of 'Chinese Whispers' running rampant and unless we know there are issues we cannot deal with them appropriately.

#### **Culture and Social Events**

We pride ourselves on being a hockey club that not only plays great hockey but is a place where lifelong friendships are made.

It's great to see members watching games other than their own and Hockey ACT have again assisted us with this with most UCHC teams playing back to back or close to each other to accommodate this.

We have again organised social events for the club – Lawn Bowls Season Launch, Bar Rally, Wine Tasting, Trivia Night and Pres Night (6 October) to come. These events help to get to know your teammates and fellow club members and are a way to continue building the culture of the club. We aim to offer events targeted at different audiences throughout the club including the family friendly Lawn Bowls Season Launch and tasteful Wine Tasting Evening.

#### <u>Finance</u>

The start of the year saw Hockey Australia introduce a new Participation Levy of \$25 which was compulsory to pay online. We also began using the new online membership system, Revolutionise.

We were again able to keep fees at the same price as last year and continue to offer a \$100 early bird discount, although we brought forward the end date of the early bird discount by one month. This was again well taken up by members, with over 120 members taking advantage of the discount. Our early bird discount has always been a way to promote people paying their fees early which helps the club with cash flow throughout the season and minimises the efforts of chasing people to pay fees. It is important to note that the discount is not 'cream' on top of our fees but money that the club must recoup via fundraising and sponsorship throughout the year to ensure we can pay our bills. For this reason, it is recommended that the early bird discount be reviewed for 2019 season.

#### Sponsorship/Fundraising

As previously mentioned due to the bigger than expected uptake of the early bird discount we have needed to work hard to gain sponsors and fundraise for the club.

A big thank you to our sponsors; The RUC who we have continued our sponsorship arrangement with, our new sponsor Emabssy of Qatar, JT Sports and the University of Canberra.

The club has raised money through a range of fundraising activities and we aim to have

varied fundraising activities that can be shared with people from outside the club, so when the opportunity arises please share with any friends, family or colleagues. Thank you to everyone who has supported the club through sharing a fundraiser and anyone that volunteered their time to make sure these fundraisers were successful.

The club was involved in the Chris MacKinnon Memorial weekend with five teams (WCL1, WSL1B, MCL2, MSL1, MSL2) wearing pink shirts and a further three teams (WCL2, WSL1R, MSL4) wearing pink socks. It was great to see so many people get involve for such a worthy cause with so many people being directly or indirectly affected by breast cancer. Including one of our own this year, Emma, who has battled through breast cancer while still playing each week. The club raised \$1072.60 which will be donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The men's CL2 and SL4 teams also both wore NAIDOC shirts again this year during NAIDOC week.

#### Recommendations

- Nominating one less women's team
- Nominating one more men's team
- Review fee structure
- Review early bird discount

I say it every year but if everyone in our club did one thing other than playing each week, whether it be as little as watching another team play, attending a social function or umpiring for our club, or as big as coaching or being on the BoM the club would be better off for it, and I encourage everyone to do so next year.

It would take too long to thank everyone personally, but a huge thank you goes to every player, coach and umpire who has helped to make the club better in 2018!

Good luck to all teams in finals, hopefully we have a great end to 2018 and an even better 2019!

Jolly Moore President

# **FINANCE**

Firstly, I'd like to thank the BOM for welcoming me mid-season into the role. I would also like to apologise for not being at the AGM today as I am away for a family wedding. I realise a lot of people in the club may not know me as I don't play for the club (yet) and have not been able to be around games much this season. I do plan to change that in the coming year and look forward to getting to know more players around the club.

#### **Key Facts**

- The Early bird discount of \$100 was continued again this year, but the cut-off shortened to finish at round one.
- Despite the shorter time frame, almost 75% of eligible players took up the discount. This represents more than \$12,000 in fee discounts in 2018. The great uptake in early fee payment is somewhat attributed to the introduction of the online payment option through Revolutionise
- As raised at last year's AGM, this year we introduced late fee penalties. A penalty of \$25 was incurred by those who did not have full fees paid by round 15, and a \$50 penalty incurred after round 18. Exceptions were made for those players who contacted the BoM and arranged payment plans.
- Reminders were sent to players with outstanding fees prior to the deadline for penalties with great results. Fewer than 3% of players incurred the \$25 late fee.
- All HACT invoices were paid on time (any further invoices are predicted to also be paid on time), avoiding interest being charged on

outstanding amounts. Achieving this was a goal of the BoM from last year's report.

#### 2019 Recommendations

- 1. A review of club fees & the way the early bid discount is offered to players should be reviewed for the 2019 season, due to the significant financial impact it has on the club. Our fees are the lowest in Hockey ACT with the early bird discount, and among the cheapest without it. This is something that we pride ourselves on being able offer our club members, due to the fantastic social fundraising & sponsorships we are able to achieve each year. Keeping fees as low as we can remains a key objective in the review.
- 2. With such a small number of players incurring the late fees in 2018 (a big thank you to everyone for getting payments in for the deadlines!), the BoM will be reviewing the late penalties and whether two levels (\$25 and \$50) is required in 2019.
- 3. Investigate opportunities to invest in training and development opportunities, both within the club and in association with Uni Juniors to both develop our current players and teams, as well as attract new talent to the club.

Again, I would just like to apologise for being away tonight and look forward to meeting as many club members as I can at Pres night & into next season.

Lexie Feeney Treasurer

2018 P&L	Budget	Current (At 17/8/18)	Forecast
Revenue			
Playing Fees	76,950	68,970	71020
Doubtful Debt	-3,000		-3,000
Sponsorship	10,000	11,500	12,500
Fundraising	3,500	1,575	2,500
Functions	2,850	2,412	2,850
Presentation night	6,000		6,000
Brophy	720		720
Total Revenue	97,020	84,457	92,590
Expenditure			
Coaches	-3,000	-400	-3,000
Subscriptions	-58,000	-57,756	-57,756
Training	-16,000	-13,633	-16,000
Equipment	-1,000	-	-1,000
Uniforms	-1,000	-1,520	-1,000
Misc.	-500	-515	-500
Hockey ACT Umpiring	-5,240	-5,240	-5,240
Umpiring Payments	-4,000	-	-3500
Trophies	-1,000	-	-1,000
Presentation night	-5,000	-	-3,000
Brophy	-720	-	-720
Total Expenditure	-95,460	-79,064	-92,716
Net Profit/(loss)	1,560	5,393	-126

# **EVENTS**

This year has been another big year for our social events, with six events happening over the course of the season. We welcomed back an old favourite and had a successful wine tasting night for the second year running.

Below is a little overview of each club event this year, and how they compared to last year's events.

#### **Lawn Bowls and Season Launch**

2017 2018			
Attendance	35	Attendance	26
Funds Raised	-	Funds Raised	-

This year unfortunately saw a decrease in numbers compared to previous years, however the rain did not stop everyone, and a good afternoon was had by all that attended.

#### **Bar Rally**

2017		2018	
Attendance	65	Attendance 43	
Funds Raised	\$725	Funds Raised	\$430

Bar Rally this year was 'Where's Wally' themed and as always, the club got well into the theme. The cold weather kept some people away, so ticket sales were down, but it was great to see an increase in tickets sold from the women's teams. We introduced a new bar to the mix Bar 88 along with some old favourites Treehouse and Mooseheads.

#### Wine Tasting

2017	2017		2018	
Attendance	67	Attendance	26	
Funds Raised	\$468	Funds Raised	\$656	

This year we introduced new wines for the wine tasting night and our wine fundraiser. The new wines were deemed a good choice from those who attended. This year's profit was higher due to a sponsorship rebate from the RUC that we

used towards food for the event. A huge thank you to Bill and Maria Mason from 'Regional Wine and Beverage Merchants'. Without their contribution of time, resources and wine we would not be able to run this event.

#### **Christmas in July**

This year we welcomed back 'Christmas in July' into our social calendar. We used this opportunity to run things a little differently and to hold a more casual event. We were also able to scope out interest in the event and look to make it bigger and better in the coming years.

#### Trivia Night

2017		2018	
Attendance	92	Attendance	79
Funds Raised	\$1305	Funds Raised	\$1262

This year's Trivia Night was again the club's biggest event fundraiser of the year. I would like to say a huge thank you to Sean Willis for donating his time and effort to running the night, the rest of the BoM for all their help and to Morgan Evans for her help running the 100 board and selling 200 raffle tickets. An even bigger thank you to the following organisations who kindly donated prizes for the night, Questacon, Bentspoke Brewery, The RUC Turner, The Dock Kingston, Telstra, Australian Pork, Norwex and the University of Canberra.

#### **Presentation Night**

Presentation night is set for the 6<sup>th</sup> October, with the theme Monte Carlo. This year we have had to have a date change, this is due to a number of factors, including past feedback with presentation night being on the Saturday of the long weekend, NRL and AFL final series and function space availability. Despite the date change we are aiming for another great night with an attendance of around 110+.

Again, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has assisted with or attended a club event this year. Our events are one of the defining features of our club and a massive drawcard for new players.

Unfortunately, this year saw a decrease in interest and attendance across all club events. Moving into 2019 we would like to see this increase, and welcome your thoughts, ideas and feedback, so that we make next year's social calendar bigger and better.

On a positive note we have quite a few teams vying for the top spot in finals. Finals series has always been a great time to come together (in our yellow shirts) and support our club. I look forward to cheering on those teams come finals time and to celebrate everyone's successes at Presentation Night on the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Ashlee Malcolm Events Director

# SPONSORSHIP & FUNDRAISING

This year started off with UCHC gaining a new sponsor, The Embassy of Qatar. This sponsorship gave the club vital funds that allowed the playing fees to stay at the same level as previous years. We also continued with the wine fundraiser and secured two Bunnings BBQs along with a month on the Grill'd Local Matters jars.

#### **Sponsorship**

The Embassy of Qatar sponsorship of UCHC was sourced by WCL1 player Emma de Kiefte. During her internship at the Embassy, Emma was involved in a team tasked with deciding which local organisations the Embassy would make generous donations to at the Qatar National Day celebrations. With a growing relationship with UC, it was suggested that the Embassy sponsor a sporting team with ties to the University and UCHC was nominated and selected for the sponsorship. Qatar is a country that very little is known about and is in many ways misunderstood. This sponsorship would aim at building a relationship and friendship between our two communities and help educate the community on the misconceptions of Qatar.

We again continued our very successful relationship with our major sponsor. The RUC Turner Bowls Club. The RUC Bucks vouchers continued this year for the player's player each week. Last year these were added to the members RUC card. Feedback from last year was this was not the best process, so we looked at ways to change this. Initially we trialled the winner picking the RUC Bucks up directly from the RUC but moved on to each coach handing them out after the game. This allowed the recipient to use the RUC voucher immediately and provided a way for us to promote the RUC Sponsorship through our social media platforms via a photo with the winner and the RUC Bucks. The distribution of RUC cards is still an ongoing issue. This year we changed the process that players were responsible for picking up their RUC cards directly from

the RUC. However, as of the time of writing, there are still over 50 cards yet to be picked up by UCHC members. I am open to suggestions on how to streamline this process, as having cards leftover at the RUC is not a good look.

I'd also like to thank our clubs other sponsors – JT Sports and Sport at UC (formerly UC Life). We have continued to have productive and beneficial relationships with both these sponsors for the 2018 season.

In addition to the support of our current sponsors, we have attempted to pursue a sponsorship partnership with Grill'd at Belconnen Westfield. During the upcoming month of September, UCHC has been selected to be on their "Local Matters" jars. This means UCHC will receive a minimum donation of \$100, and if we gain the most coins for the month we will receive a \$300 donation. Talks are also underway on potential future sponsorship from Grill'd Belconnen for season 2019.

We are also in talks with Lycan Hockey to have an equipment sponsor for the club. This is still in the early stages and more information will be released at a future date.

#### **Fundraising**

This season we engaged in three major fundraising activities, the biggest being a Bunnings BBQ. Funds raised through each of these activities are outlined below:

Activity	Raised
Bunnings BBQ (Gungahlin)	\$1 025
Wine Fundraiser	\$423
People's Choice Community	\$126
Lottery	
Groovin the Moo Car Parking	\$0
Total Funds Raised	\$1,574

As can been seen from the table, we took a large hit this year with the Groovin the Moo Car Parking. This was due to UC telling us the day before the event that we

would not be allowed to profit from the event. This missed opportunity at fundraising meant our fundraising for the club is down on previous years. However, there are still opportunities to fundraise this year with the club securing another Bunnings BBQ at Canberra Airport on Saturday 13 October, and the Grill'd Local Matters campaign in September.

Securing a Bunnings BBQ is quite a difficult process. Sausage sizzle allocations are randomly drawn and allocated after making an initial request to Bunnings to hold a BBQ. We have placed requests with a number of Bunnings stores since our last Bunnings BBQ mid-2017, and we were successful in securing an allocation in February this year at Bunnings Gungahlin. I'd like to thank everyone who volunteered their time at the Bunnings Gungahlin BBQ. Even though the BBQ was outside of hockey season, we had quite a number of volunteers which made everything run very smoothly on the day. We sold over 80kg of sausages, over 200 cans of drinks, and even some UCHC merch!

We have also been lucky to secure another Bunnings BBQ for 2018, at the newly opened Canberra Airport store. This BBQ is scheduled to take place outside of the hockey season on the 13<sup>th</sup> October (week after out presentation night) and we are still seeking volunteers to assist with this event.

Our wine fundraiser this year was held through the months of June and July. While we still managed to raise funds through this activity (mainly from the wine tasting night), orders (and hence funds raised) this year are down on previous years. Therefore, any feedback members have in regards to the wine fundraiser are greatly appreciated so that we can tailor this fundraising activity for next season.

During the Chris MacKinnon Memorial Weekend, multiple teams throughout the club raised funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation by purchasing a pink uniform. Through this process, combined with other donations, the club was able to raise \$1072.60 that will go directly to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

#### Social Media

This year the club has endeavoured to increase the content on our social media sites, to celebrate the achievements of our members along with showcasing existing sponsors and attract additional sponsors to the club.

This was made possible by the communication of coaches/managers reporting game results, goal scorers and player's player recipients (accompanied with a photo) via the club's Facebook group. These posts are not only a great way for members to find out how other teams are tracking through the season, but also to provide our sponsors a summary of the week on our other social media platforms (Instagram, the website's blog and the Devil's Digest).

Many thanks again to a fantastic season and good luck to everyone vying for a place in finals. I can't wait to celebrate all the successes of the season at Presentation Night.

Nik Sharpe Sponsorship and Fundraising Director

# **TEAMS & COACHING**

#### 2018 Coaches:

Women's	Men's
CL1	CL2
James Borrett	Stirling Sharpe
CL2	SL1
Russell Thomson	Bianca Letki
SL1 Red	SL2
Ben O'Sullivan	Chantelle Blackwell
SL1 Blue	SL3
Mat Evans	Jessica Edington &
	Niki Ward
SL2	SL4
Kenny Duren	Brett Loiterton &
	Lincoln Green
SL3	Midweek
Adam Coughlan	Meaghan Clack
SL4	
Bram de Laat	

I'd like to start by thanking all of our excellent coaches. Without all of the effort and time that you put in, we wouldn't be able to function as a club and for that we are extremely thankful.

This year again saw a few changes to the coaching line up with some new blood and some coaches taking on more senior roles. It's great to see and I think that over the past couple of years we have built an excellent line up of coaches. It's been great to see some new people get involved in coaching and with the support of everyone in the club, I hope everyone is at least considering coming back next year. This year Bianca made the move across to MSL1 and she has been great for the team and I think the team were happy to have a full-time coach this year. Russ took on the CL2 women's coaching role and has again been great for the club and they seem to have enjoyed his tutelage. Again, this season we have quite a young CL women's squad who, under Jim and Russ, continue to improve in the women's competition. Their development over the last couple of years has been good to see and with some older heads in the team, I have no doubt they will continue to improve. I think I speak for

everyone in saying that we hope they all continue to return and take out a few premierships in the coming years.

To all the old faces that have now been around the club for several years and have consistently coached teams towards the finals, a big thanks and I hope that you will consider returning next year. I personally understand the amount of time and effort that you put into the training sessions and it is appreciated. I'm sure that the players also appreciate the time and effort you put into coaching not just on weekends but also during the week. They may not say they do but they do, and their improvement is credit to you.

The coaching staff have again worked well together this season with the number of players being given the opportunity to play up grades to test their skill this season. It's beneficial to both players and the club having these opportunities given and I believe the club is getting stronger and stronger because of this. Our club is building our reputation and we are starting to attract high quality players because of this. Again, that wouldn't be the case if it wasn't for the coaching staff and how they work together as a team. Also, I don't often thank those who play down grades but this year we have needed a lot of assistance across teams to sometimes get them on the field. Hats off to all those players that double or tripled up on weekends where additional players were required. A big thanks to Meaghan Clack who pulled out all stops to make sure we would eventually have enough players to field an SL4 women's team. I think this team now holds the record for the most players to have ever played in the one team.

#### **Training Times**

Training was held on a Wednesday night this year which, while better than having two separate days as was the case last year, still wasn't ideal. With one time slot over lapping, it meant that some coaches had to choose between training and coaching. This is something to work on

next year. However, I think one thing that did work well was separating the field into thirds and giving everyone a bit of extra space. I also know that coaches worked well together at training to sort out field allocation etc. which was great to see.

Carter				
Time	Day	1st third	2nd third	3rd third
7:30- 8:30	Wednesday	CL1W	CL2W	SL1W
8:30- 9:30	Wednesday	CL2M	SL1M	SL2M
		Watt		
Time	Day	1st third	2nd third	3rd third
8:30- 9:30	Wednesday	SL3M, SL4M	SL1W	SL2W, SL3W, SL4W

#### **Teams and Finals Opportunities**

At the time of writing this we have a number of teams who have an opportunity to play finals. In the men's competition we have CL2, SL2, SL3 and SL4. It's great to see our CL2 men's team in finals contention for the second year in a row. They narrowly missed out on finals last season but are in a good position this year to not only make finals but also be competitive in the finals series.

In the women's competition the CL grades are continuing to build teams and will become successful in future years. There

continues to be new faces in the CL squad which is great to see. We continue to be able to recruit strong players in the CL squad and this has seen us be able to successfully run two SL1 teams and one will make the finals this season. SL1 Blue will make the finals this year and SL4 women are also in a position to contend for finals.

#### Midweek

As always, the midweek warriors continue to make finals and they currently sit third on the ladder and have had some good wins over the stronger teams this year and some very close loses. This year they have had a bit of a tough season but thanks to people helping out and Meaghan coordinating the team they have always been able to put a team on the field each week. It's great to see that we continue to support a midweek team who are self-sufficient and represent our club well during the week.

Finally, good luck to all teams who are in contention for the finals it's great to see as a club we continue to be so strong. Big thanks to all the coaches and we hope to see most if not all of you again next season.

Lincoln Green
Teams and Coaching Director

# **UMPIRING**

This year has been a challenging one and would not have been possible if not for the regular umpires doing games week in and week out and also those that stepped up in times of need and have done games here and there. Without both groups of people, it would have been a very difficult year indeed.

I would personally like to thank Jolly for all her assistance through the year. On top of all the Presidential duties performed, she has helped me throughout the year, particularly whilst I was in Spain and I thank her a great deal for that.

This year has seen a decrease in the number of umpires that we have had in previous seasons with sixteen umpires helping over the course of the season. The impact of having less umpires has been offset with the fact that Hockey ACT decided at the start of the season to appoint to SL1 as well as Capital League, meaning three less games per week. Having said this there are a number of umpires that have done a high amount of games over the season and again I would like to thank them. Over the course of the season UCHC covered 128 rostered commitments and missed two. There were also a number of umpires that covered games that were appointed to other clubs but didn't show up. A big thank you to those that covered those games.

A major goal for next year will be to recruit some more umpires and also work more closely with the University Juniors club to entice some juniors that have been through the Hockey ACT JOEYS program into the senior competitions.

The new payment system for umpires continued again this year with umpires that are accredited through the HockeyEd system being paid \$30 per game, with unaccredited receiving \$25 per game.

Again, there will be a push in following years for umpires to progress through the HockeyEd program and further their umpire education.

This year there were six umpires that umpired Capital League regularly. Congratulations to Nathan Cornish, Jackson Leckie, Mark McElligott, Will Richards, Stirling Sharpe and Sean Willis. A massive congratulations also to Paige Edwards who progressed into the Hockey ACT umpire panel and has been regularly appointed to SL1 games in the second half of the season.

Again, I would like to thank all our umpires in their efforts over the season. Without you the games don't go ahead and the club doesn't run, so thank you very much for all your efforts. We sincerely hope to see you all again out there officiating next year and hopefully there will be some new umpires to join you.

Sean Willis 2018 UCHC Umpiring Coordinator



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