

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2011

### HOCKEY

We had a smoother start to the 2011 season with increased numbers in the juniors and men's units. Administratively we were better organised than in 2010, although a lot of hard work relating to email and website communication was brought undone by a computer hacker in Turkey! Barry Harriman did a great job rebuilding the website over the summer, thanks Barry.

Despite advertising for coaches at the end of the 2010 season and over summer, we struggled to attract junior coaches prior to season beginning. A final plea at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour saw us fill these positions and I thank all those who answered our call to give up their time to coach our kids. I can't say often enough that our kids are the key to our future success as a club. We registered 9 junior teams but had to drop an U9 and an U13 team due to not quite having enough numbers to field 2 full teams week to week. Dropping these sides was a painful decision to take as strengthening our juniors is a key strategy in our plans for future growth in the club. In the end we fielded 7 junior teams, including an U15 Girls team which is an important step in strengthening our women's unit and providing a development pathway for our girls.

Our senior men's unit fielded 4 teams, all of whom played finals hockey, 3 played in grand finals. Our Men's Metro 1 team won their grand final in a thriller – congratulations to the boys. Well done to Matt Guastella and the coaches, captains and assistants who worked very cooperatively to bring about an excellent overall result for the season.

The women's unit had stable numbers this year after a difficult 2010 season. We fielded 3 teams in what was a positive year marking the beginning of a rebuilding phase. Many of the junior girls played in senior teams which provided a much needed injection of fresh blood. Well done to Stan Hatch and the other coaches and assistants for their positive work this season.

We amended our junior fees structure to remove any financial barrier preventing our older juniors from playing senior hockey and many of our juniors did in fact play in our senior teams. This was key to being able to field full teams each week in both the men's and women's competitions and is an important part of junior development. It also provides a vital injection of fresh talent which is so important in promoting and growing a strong base of "home grown" players.

### ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the club in 2011 was far smoother than in 2010 thanks to a number of people who stepped up to help run important. That being said, the running of the club was left to too small a group again and as could be expected resulted in some programs not being implemented. I am approached on quite a number of occasions during a season by well intended members advising on ideas that they think would be worth implementing. For the greater part I would suggest that these ideas are well merited. It is unfortunate that due to a lack of committee numbers these ideas and many ideas like them pass without implementation. I encourage all members and their families to consider donating a small amount of time to assisting our club achieve its potential. I will continue to campaign for many people each doing a small number of things rather than a small number of people trying to do many things.

I would like to thank those committee members who donated their personal time during the season to ensure the club continued to operate relatively efficiently. We did have a number of movements in roles during the season and I thank all involved for taking on whatever was required of them week to week. I can assure all our members that if it were not for the dedication of these people our club would cease to exist. This committee has worked hard to provide consistency and stability off-field in order to enable the same in our on-field performance. I hope our members agree that we are now well on the way to establishing this.

I would, once again, like to extend a thank you to everyone who nominated for a committee position for the 2011 season. Some were able to fulfil their commitment to greater and lesser degrees than others, but I thank you for at least giving it a go. It is my personal aim as President to reduce the time individual committee members spend on administrative duties. The days of the dutiful club servant spending countless hours around the club are diminishing and we need to find ways to spread the load among the broader membership. To those who assisted in other ways, such as cooking barbeques, working in the canteen, cleaning the club rooms, getting us space in the local newspaper, helped with the website cleared out the shed or any of a list of jobs that are required to keep it all going – thank you.

I do want to extend a thankyou to Rebekah Hodson, April Picton, Joanna Shields, Michael Dale and Jeff Reidy for their ongoing efforts again during the course of this season. I would like to also thank Julie Harriman for taking over the running of the canteen (or should I say the clubrooms?) during the season. Julie ensured that the clubrooms and the canteen were always in excellent condition and without her efforts we would have been without a well functioning canteen this season. I would also extend a thank you to Lawrie Edwards for stepping into the role of Men's Vice President mid season and doing a great job at it. I need to extend a special thanks to Paul Chaffey for his tireless work in the background, volunteering to do any job, pleasant or otherwise, that needed doing. The enormous effort that you put in this season simply cannot be described and I offer my personal thanks for making my life a lot easier in 2011. Congratulations to you Paul on your election as Senior Club Person for 2011, a recognition that is so very well deserved.

## THE FUTURE

A successful 2011 season has given us reason to look forward to a bright future. Ours is a wonderful club that I am proud to represent as President. We have every reason to believe that we should enjoy strong growth in the coming years and as a committee it is our role to provide the structures and stability to ensure our players and coaches can concentrate on player development and on field improvement. Our focus is on junior recruitment, junior and senior development and stable administration. We are not building an empire, but we are building a strong and successful club where individuals are afforded the opportunity to achieve their potential. Hockey Victoria has announced the creation of a "State League Reserve" competition in 2013 which means that 2012 will be a development year for our senior 2<sup>nd</sup> teams. We need to evolve with the game and these changes will benefit clubs like ours by providing our players the opportunity to play at a higher competitive standard. This presents a great opportunity for our younger players.

I have once again enjoyed the year as president, although I still feel as though I would like to have achieved more. I hope to continue with you in our journey to create a club to be proud of both on and off the field.

## **Casey Cannons Hockey Club – Treasurers Report for the period November 2010 to October 2011**

Whilst the club has enjoyed a reasonably high level of success in the hockey on field department with many teams making finals, some grand finals and a couple of premierships, the reality of this year in terms of the financials is disappointing and I accept full responsibility for its failing.

The plan this year was to have a set of accounts which could be fully audited however, whilst every effort was made by those responsible for the money handling side of things the reality was that a lack of proper systems, processes and the appointment of resources, along with my inability to be hands on has meant that we have not met this goal. The financials as you will see from the Income & Expenditure statement plus Cashflow report look relatively healthy and are comparable and consistent with the result presented last year. Whilst I have no reason nor evidence to suggest that anything untoward is occurring from a money handling viewpoint within the club, the fact remains that we currently do not have the necessary systems in place for proper transparency and accuracy. It would not be too difficult a task to achieve this result however; it would require anyone responsible (and this should only be designated personnel) for the money handling at the club to implement a system which would allow for the timely and accurate processing of data on a monthly basis. Gone would be the days where people who go out of their way to make things happen for the club offset expenses against fees etc as without proper identification of such, it is impossible to present an accurate Profit & Loss / Income & Expenditure Statement.

I would completely understand based on my lack of performance to date if the AGM deemed it necessary to replace me in the position of treasurer and would not be offended however, if I was to stay on in this position for the upcoming year then once positions have been finalised we would need to implement the systems and processes described above immediately. I would be demanding more of you than ever before and this needs to start with a stocktake of all items (assets and stock) at least at a dollar level but ideally at an item level, as the task of putting together a balance sheet for this AGM is an impossible one! On this note, I have decided it best not to attend tonight's AGM in order to allow each of you to speak freely in this regard and to vote conscientiously as to whom you feel should be in the role of treasurer.

## **2011 Men's Vice President Report**

A very successful year in most areas of the men's section under first year coach Matt Guastala. Matt was a great acquisition to the club bringing his skill and experience and being able to pass on his knowledge to our players. He received great response and respect from all players. We were fortunate to gain 3 more experienced players to bolster our 1st squad as well as a number of new and experienced players into the lower teams. Numbers across all teams were very good throughout the year with most teams having 2 to 3 on the bench. More junior members made an impact into our senior ranks with many getting 1st and 2nd team experience. All four men's teams were well run by their respective captains and this showed in the results with all teams making an impact in the finals. Our 1sts and 2nds reaching the grand final with the 2nds being premiers. The only downside to the season was that our major goals weren't quite reached, that being promotion for both 1sts and 2nds, but all looks well for the future, numbers are up, enthusiasm is great and we have some very good juniors coming through.

Regards,

Lawrie Edwards

## **2011 Women's Vice President Report**

This year has seen the Women's unit welcome a number of new senior players, of all ages and abilities, to the ranks as well as a number of Junior girls making their way into Senior hockey, as well as three new coaches. Unfortunately we have seen a number of players leave the club which impacted heavily on being able to field teams each week.

The Women's Metro 4 team was impacted the most, having to play each week with never more than 11 players and sometimes as few as 8, half of whom were junior players. Despite this they remained determined throughout the season to try their hardest, improve their skills and most importantly have fun and managed to finish the season second from the bottom of the ladder with two wins and two draws. Fantastic effort by Sam Dobrich for being their game day coach.

The Metro 1 South team had a very slow start to the season getting their first win on the board in Round 6. Andrew Harris came on board to be their game day coach, helping settle the team and give them some structure. The second half of the season saw the Metro 1 team defeat top-of-the-ladder TEM's which was a huge feat, and pushing other higher teams to their limits, and finishing the season 7<sup>th</sup> on the ladder.

The Women's State League 3 team welcomed a number of Junior players to the side. The young girls, under the watchful eye of coach Stan Hatch, improved greatly over the season and showed they had what it took to play State League hockey. At season end, they had eight wins and two draws which finished them in 7<sup>th</sup> place also.

Stan Hatch has been fantastic this year as the Senior Women's Head Coach in "taking us back to basics" which has seen vast improvement across the unit. Training was inclusive of all teams which created a better camaraderie amongst the women's unit. Once again however, numbers at training slowly declined as the season progressed, particularly on Thursday night. A number of the junior girls also attended senior training which was great to see and is possibly something that should be incorporated into the training schedule next year.

All in all it has been a good season of hockey however certainly took its toll on me. Despite that I enjoyed every minute of and wish to thank everyone who helped me out throughout the season.

## Junior Report 2011

For the season 2011 Casey Hockey Club entered 9 junior teams in the Hockey Victoria competition . Teams were entered in the following grades U/17 Pennant SE U/17 South U/15 South U/15 Pennant S E (Girls) U/13 Pennant SE U/13 South U/11 Pennant SE and two U/9 teams in the south competition .

Unfortunately due to lack of numbers we had to withdraw the u/13 South team and one u/9 team .

U/17 Pennant SE 3rd 11 wins 1 draw 6 losses This team had a up and down year where they were able to beat the lower teams and although competitive were unable to beat the top two teams . Played Camberwell in 1st final drawing 1-1 but were eliminated due Camberwell finishing higher on the ladder This team also had 5 Players from Bairnsdale travel down each Friday night

U/17 South 8th 5 Wins 2 Draws 11 Losses . This team had some good results but also struggled in some of the games due to lack of numbers

U/15 South 1st 15 wins 2 Draws 1 loss . This team had an excellent year losing only one game for the year winning their 1st final against Mornington 5-0 then the following week had the ultimate success beating Southern United 2-1 in the grand final

U/15 Girls Pennant SE 5th 6 wins 12 Losses . With a lot of new players to hockey this team had a slow start to the season but with gradual improvement became more competitive during the season where they were able to have some good results during the season

U/13 Pennant SE finished 10th With 1 Win 2 Draws 15 Losses Although this team did finish 10th they were able to improve their hockey throughout the year been competitive against the top teams .

u/11 Pennant SE 8th Won only one game for the season . This team struggled throughout the year been uncompetitive in some of the games

U/9 South 5th 10 wins 1 draw 7 Losses This team had a good year with all players improving their skills and game play throughout the season .

The Following players made representative teams during the season

U/15 Sharks boys U/13 Sharks Boys U/13 Sharks Girls U/17 Sharks Boys

Jack Grbic	Tristan Chaffey	Monika Young	Robert Third
	Ben Bowman		Jarryd Beckwith

U/15 Cougars Girls U/17 Cougars Girls U/17 Cougars Boys

Madelyn Noye	Mikayla Blackshaw	Ren Crunden Smith
		Lachlan Bartlett

Thank you to all coaches and team managers for their time and effort during the season to those who gave up their time to umpire thankyou