



Presidents Report

For the Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 29th November 2022

CLUB / TEAM SEASON REVIEW

The 2022 season has seen an increase of 9% in our club membership. This season we registered an extra Year 6-8 boys team in the BHA competition. We continued to encourage our Year 9-12's year players to step up and coach. We will again next year be looking at our next intake of juniors (and parents) keen to partake in the Certificate 1 Coaching Course being organised with Hockey WA in the early part of next year.

Well done to our three senior and seven junior teams for all your efforts this year. Congratulations to our Senior Men for winning the Grand Final! Please note that all the end of season awards presented to Margaret River players are listed on our [website](#). I would also like to congratulate Oscar Male and Hannah Bredenkamp for making State team selections and our Club Ambassador, [Aran Zalewski](#) on his Commonwealth Gold medal.

Well done to all of you who have been involved in our first summer hockey competition. This has been a wonderful opportunity for new players to try hockey and for some of our seasoned hockey players to return and play on a casual basis. Thanks to Tim "TJ" Jones for organising the fixtures, Alicia Powelski assisting with the teams, and Ginger and Botond Erdosi for running our BBQ. Special mention to Tim Pawelski AKA "The Hulk" for the great outfits each week in the summer social competition.

PROMOTING HOCKEY IN OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

This year, hockey lessons were included as part of the term 4 sports options at Margaret River Primary School. This meant that 45 Year 5/6 students walked over from school and played on the training turf. Mr Mark Harrison had additional coaching expertise on hand from Wally Zalewski and Helena Williams for a fun filled Friday afternoon.

Augusta Primary School were successful with a sporting grant, which meant that they also received the Hockey WA (Core 4) teaching programme. There were 98 children from Kindy/Pre-Primary to Year 6 involved in these hockey sessions. Augusta Primary have since purchased the basic hockey training bag with sticks, cones and balls (from Republic of Hockey) to continue their hockey journey, which is really encouraging.

We also ran our Goldstix 8 week program for Pre-primary - Year 2's, with our numbers steadily growing, which was certainly helped by a later season program start, and finishing with many of our young players joining in the Goldstix carnival in Busselton.

TURF PROJECT

With ongoing issues like COVID-19, contractor staffing levels, delivery delays of materials to site, the training turf completion date continued to shift. We began training again on the grass, with the promise that the turf would be finished "soon".



We managed to source some re-cycled Busselton hockey goals, these were bent back into shape (thank you Bob Fox, Wally Zalewski and Ross Mckillop) and with a new coat of paint (thanks Phyllis Fox) the goals were wheeled into place 20 minutes before our first club training session on our Margaret River Turf - Tuesday 31st May - "Let's bring hockey home!"

We have now also negotiated a club "hockey HQ" (a sea container) thanks to an alliance with the Margaret River Senior High School. Next year we hope to work closer with our neighbours, the Margaret River Bowling Club allowing further use of the kitchen, toilets, changing room and bar use for some club social events including the re-scheduled Turf Opening (being planned for February 2023).

SPONSORSHIP & FUNDRAISING

As part of the turf project, we have worked with our turf / club sponsors organising the signage for around the turf. The designs are in the final stages and will be erected very soon. Thanks again to;

- Fusion Electrical
- Mitre 10
- Middleton Business Advisory
- Priceline
- SportsPower
- Yahava

Some club shirts are also sponsored by Yahava and Pharmacy 777 and Priceline which we are so very grateful for.

We have also set up a fundraising project through the [Australian Sports Foundation](#), a not-for-profit agency, so friends, family can support our club and [donate](#) on our website. Their donation is tax-deductible. Funds raised will be allocated to grandstand seating for our supporters, coaching and training clinics and club equipment. Thank you to those of you who have donated online already.

This year we also invested in some club merchandise. It has been wonderful seeing our yellow and teal worn across our club. It's a great way for us to fundraise, with a percentage from each garment going back into our club. So by wearing your hoodie, you are supporting your club and staying warm and cosy! Thanks very much to Kelly Tysoe for organising our merchandise and delivering items to you all.

CLUB WEBSITE / SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

Our [club website](#) has been totally revamped and now using Squarespace and the expertise of Ross Mckillop, we are able to share more club news, events, and fixtures on the calendar and updates via Facebook and Instagram.

We do have a page called Club Newsletters - which is a great way to store all monthly news. Thank you to Alice Westcott for all her creative hard work this year.

Facebook and Instagram are also popular amongst our members. Special thanks to Alicia Pawelski for all the social media posts. We have 648 Facebook followers regularly messaging and responding to our updates and one of our recent reels (about the Ag Show and the fireworks) had 805 plays!



We have a mailing list (using Mailchimp). This includes our sponsors and supporters, past members and members of our local community who are not registered players but are keen to follow what the hockey club gets up to!

MRHC COMMUNITY PROFILE

MARGARET RIVER LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club remain very dear to our club. We again managed to book a \$1,500 community grant thanks to our enthusiastic volunteers attending the Friday / Saturday morning shifts. Your time was really appreciated.

MITRE 10 - SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Thanks also to Kelly and Aloha Fritsch and Louise Mann for running a sausage sizzle at Mitre 10. Now we are through the worst of the COVID-19 restrictions, these community events are a good way to share the hockey club vibes and raise some much needed funds for the club.

If you are interested in helping at a fund raiser, but want some help with suggestions, please let our Club Secretary know - we will help you to organise one!

SPORT & REC REFERENCE GROUP

This year, following a directive from the AMR Shire, it was agreed that the Sport and Rec clubs should still meet, but the purpose of this group is being reviewed. There is still a need to support and assist each other in the development of our facilities on Gloucester Park. By sharing information our sporting community can be across grants, sharing ideas, and collaborating for multi purpose funding.

Hockey, although the last club to join the party, are very much getting involved, sharing ideas regarding facility upgrades, fundraising and grants. We have signed up for ClubMap. ClubMap assist sporting clubs, with their development. More club development is planned for 2023.

MINDFUL MARGARET RIVER (MMR) AND ZERO2HERO,

MMR with support from AMR Shire have set up a task force to further support clubs and incorporate mental health training / programs to improve their resilience. Mental health support and wellness and good club culture is an area we are always keen to improve in our club. In 2022 I became a Board Member of MMR and learnt a great deal about how proactive and supportive Mindful Margaret River is across our community. The task force looks at ways to promote wellbeing through advocacy, education and social connection for individuals and communities.

The hockey club has already had some great initiatives that we support and learn from, (Scarred for Life, Good Blokes Retreats, Zero2Hero camps) and MMR are keen to work with us and for us to share our learnings with other community clubs. We will be adding another page to our website before the new season starts called "Together we are stronger". We will share info about Mindful Margaret River workshops / support groups available to us in our region for all our members to access.



We will also share the info about the youth leadership camps run by Zero2Hero. Congratulations to Aloha Fritsch who was successful with her Zero2Hero application - she is our 2022 Hero!

We will also share info and updates about our “Scarred for Life” event planned for March 2023.

MRHC (Executive) BOARD

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2022 season Executive Board for their contributions. Jenni Boyle and Botond Erdosi, and those finishing their commitments, Claire Parker (Secretary), Cilla Bevan (Treasurer) and Louise Mann (Vice President), you have helped with many projects around the club for a few seasons now. Reliable, supportive and constantly there to assist, advise and calm me, so thank you, you deserve a well earned rest!

MRHC (Non-Executive) COMMITTEE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2022 season Non-Executive Committee for their contributions. Alicia Pawelski, Chad Brooks, Corli Luther, Kelly Fritsch, Ross Mckillop, Tim Jones and Wally Zalewski, For those of you re-nominating, brilliant! We will continue all the awesome work next year. We will be calling for committee nominations soon!

2022 was the year we concentrated on setting up our structure, preparing for some growth. Now that our training turf facilities are in place, our next steps will be investing in player development improving hockey skills, supporting coaches, umpires and players, planning coaching clinics and maximising the turf time that is now available to us all.

With regards to next year and moving forward, if nominated for next season, I will suggest that we continue with our strategic plan and follow our management plan. The work done behind this year is making the general club running easier for future board / committees. We will continue to share out the volunteer roles and together, this will hopefully maximise the fun and the hockey playing time for us all.

If you have any ideas or suggestions and you want to get involved more in **your** club, please let me know! Maybe its time for a tag-line upgrade... Now that we can tick off “Let’s Bring Hockey Home”...

I would personally like to say a huge thank you to all of you who have put your hand up for a role, large or small. This means that this year our club has run with 25% of our members helping out on a regular basis throughout the season - so thank you! xx

Thanks for your time and support - I’m so proud of our club, how we work together and what we achieve.

Proud Past - Bright Future

Maxine

Maxine Williams
President, MRHC (2022)