

# HDJRLFC&TA Annual General Meeting | MINUTES



Meeting date | time 11/11/2019 7:00 PM | Meeting location Ettamogah Hotel - Kellyville

Meeting called by Board of Members

Type of meeting 2019 Annual General Meeting

Facilitator Michael Gremmo (President)

Note taker Rick Palin

Timekeeper Rick Palin

Attendees (As per Attendance Register)

Rick Palin, Michael Gremmo, Scott Chalcraft, Robert Zecchin, Paul Griffin, Aaron Gonzalez, Martin Shanahan, Rob Gleeson, Steve Marks, Rod Gray, Matt Reardon and Michael Withers

Apologies

Peter Beck, Greig Newbery, Mark Mahoney, Leon Carroll (Oztag), Justin Moynihan, Phil Axiak, David Grech, Simon and Alison Gwynne

## AGENDA TOPICS

### 1. Topic **Facilitator Welcome** | Presenter *Michael Gremmo*

**Welcome:** Michael Gremmo opened meeting, welcomed Life Members and all asking that every attendee ensure they sign the Attendance Register. Apologies were then read out.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meeting introduced by Michael Gremmo. No questions about the minutes. Michael Gremmo requested that a resolution be passed confirming the previous 2018 meeting minutes are an accurate record of the previous meeting.

**Motion Proposed:** Rob Zecchin

**Seconded:** Martin Shanahan

### 2. Topic **Presidents Report** | Presenter *Michael Gremmo*

**Discussion:** Michael Gremmo (MG) provided a report on the Club's activities for 2019:

MG advised that in 2019, the Hills Bulls was the largest Junior Rugby League Club (based on Junior teams) in the Parramatta JRL District finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Club Championships amassing 1113 points, only 7 points behind Wenty and 319 points clear of 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Cabramatta. The Hills Bulls came first in the Modified Games Incentive Shield ahead of Wenty and Cabra – An outstanding Club achievement.

From our 41 teams, we had 33 eligible teams that could make the finals resulting in an impressive:

- 28 Teams making the Minor Semi Finals
- 24 Teams in Major Semi Finals
- 19 Teams in Elimination Final
- 16 Teams in the Grand Final
- 6 Minor Premiers
- 7 Teams – 2019 Premiers

Some of our achievements in 2019 include:

- We were once again awarded 2nd place amongst a field of 22 clubs in the Parramatta JRL Club Championship.
- 2019 Parramatta Junior Rugby League Modified Games Club of the Year.
- Isaac Gorman was awarded the Parramatta District Coach of the Year. Isaac coached the Under 18 Division 2 Team to its third successive Grand Final and Premiership.
- Hills Bulls entered five teams in the League Tag competitions with three teams winning the Premiership, and our three Under 11 teams finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our girls couldn't have achieved a better result.
- David Langi - 2019 NSW Under 16 State of Origin Representative
- Tyler Field - 2019 Australian School Boys Representative
- Myle Martin - 2019 Australian School Boys Merit (U15) Team
- Many others representative players including 8 young ladies representing the Tarsha Gale and Lisa Fiaola Cup teams.
- Our OzTag Representatives finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State championships with Keahlan Bray representing Australia in Oztag.
- Hills District Junior Luke Keary (Australian Representative) still assisting the Bulls with Mini Clinics, now also a 3 time NRL Premiership Winner with Souths and Roosters.
- Another Hills Junior Ryan Papenhuyzen made his first grade debut with the Melbourne Storm, securing regular spot in the run on squad and snaring multiple man of the Match awards.
- Earlier this year, we saw three Hills juniors in Keary, Josh Curran and Papenhuyzen all playing against each other in the one game - Roosters v Storm.
- Also Tom Starling, another Hills junior making his NRL debut for Canberra
- 2019 saw initiatives such as Mini Clinic, Bulls Academy and u13 tour to Qld again proving to be a great success and benefit to our members.
- Our Junior and Senior Presentations were again a great success and turn-out and special thanks to Matt 'Koshie' Reardon who was MC on the day and making it a day.
- Special mention to our Senior Players who are training and coaching junior teams - Isaac Gorman, Sean and Rhys Walpole, Sam Shepherd, Joel Bradford, Flynn Mooney, Luke Wright and Cooper Edwards. Also young coaches and trainers - Cameron Charwood, Glen Marks, Joel Butt, Jake Walpole and Brooke Marshall for a wonderful job with our u13's, U15's and U11's league Tag team.
- A thank you to our current Board for your efforts. A special mention to Leon Carroll and Greig Newbery stepping down from the Board for your enormous effort over many years as coaches, trainers and running our Oztag and as Board Members for your time, guidance and professionalism over these years.
- Our thoughts are with the Don family and wish Kai a full and speedy recovery.
- This year, the Hills Bulls lost Mick Shanahan, Club legend, player and Life Member. Mick will be remembered for his dedication in managing countless teams and mentoring hundreds of young bulls players. We also sadly lost young Jack Griffin that had played for many years at the Club. The Hills Bulls send our condolences to both the Shanahan and Griffin families.
- 2020 will see the Hills Bulls continue our partnership with both the Parramatta Eels and South Sydney Rabbitohs, creating a direct feed into the NRL and a pathway for our juniors to aspire to.
- Hills Shire Council have finally completed the rear training fields and we met only this week regarding the gym whilst we are working closely with Council, Parramatta Eels, NSW and Federal Governments.
- These initiatives will see an unprecedented opportunity for the Hills Bulls future.
- 2019 results and achievements both on and off the field are outstanding and I am sure there will be many more in 2020,
- This shows we as a Club have truly embraced - CLUB - TEAM - PLAYER

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### 3. Topic **BOM/Committee Reports** | Presenter **BOM**

**Discussion:** Scott Chalcraft (SC) gave an overview of the Club's marketing & media projects:

- SC advised that Facebook is being used as the main source of communication along with EDMs on the Website and Email mailouts.
- Moving forward we now have a range of templates we use for advertising Activities and Functions which will save time and production costs.
- The Website has also been updated to a new improved look and feel, which give a lot more immediate info on the Home Page about upcoming events
- SC mentioned that there is now a marketing sub-committee assisting with the various marketing/social media functions
- Rob Gleeson asked how do we handle/restrict Facebook negative comments
  - SC and Rob Gleeson agreed to both look into it.
- Steve Marks asked if we could start advertising using signs again for Touch Football etc.
  - MG and RP advised that council remove signs after a short period.
  - Marty Shanahan said that local schools have signs on their fences and maybe something to look at.

**Discussion:** Paul Griffin (PG) gave an overview of Senior Football matters:

- PG advised that Parra JRL had removed the C Grade competition and introduced the U18 (U17/18), U20 (U19/20) and U23 competitions this year. We had 2 x U18 teams, U20 and U23 team, of which all made the semis and two team made Grand Finals, our U18/2 team became Premiers for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year.
- PG advised that Senior Football for 2019 started well for oth teams, with Sydney Shield team winning their first few games, but fell away during the season due to injury and dwindling numbers. The Ron Massey team had a relative successful year and was beaten in the GF qualifier. Mick Withers as the new coach has done a great job building up the squad this year which is looking very positive for next season.
- 2020 season to date has the following in place:
  - 2020 coaches - Mick Withers (Ron Massey) & Gary Burgess (Sydney Shield).
  - Gary Burgess has good credentials and will be bring in his own staff.
  - Player recruitment has been going very well with a number of new quality signings and existing players

**Discussion:** Aaron Gonzalez (AG) gave an overview of Sponsorship matters:

- AG advised that we had seen a number of new sponsors this season, both for our Junior and Senior sponsorships, including a number who are sponsoring both groups. This is good news as we lost a couple of major sponsors this year, and then new sponsors have helped fill those financial gaps. We also have decided to write off a number of historical sponsorship amounts due to defaulters.
- AG advised that we already had a large number of Sponsors on-board which looks positive for the 2020 season.

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#### 4. Topic **Annual Financial Report FY1819** | Presenter *Michael Gremmo*

**Discussion:** Michael Gremmo (MG) gave an overview of the finances for the club. Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2019 prepared by Jigsaw Tax Accountants was provided to all attendees and tabled at the meeting.

The surplus for the financial year amounted to \$87,012. This figure is down on last 2018 and is explained as we have taken a \$50k write off cost for defaulter sponsorships unpaid over the last 8 years.

Some questions were raised regarding expanding on some financial line items, and it was advised that the Club auditor couldn't attend the meeting due to being out of the country, but we will release the full report on the auditors return on the website with the minutes.

A motion stating the 2019 Audited Financial Report is accepted by the floor. Report Attached.

**Financials Proposed:** Matt Reardon

**Seconded:** Steve Marks

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#### Topic **Election of 2019/2020 Committee Members** | Presenter *Rick Palin*

2018/19 Board stood down.

**Paper nominations received:** Scott Chalcraft, Michael Gremmo, Paul Griffin, Rod Gray, Mark Mahoney, Rick Palin, Justin Moynihan, Peter Beck, Michael Withers & Aaron Gonzalez – All 10 members are elected

**Nominations from the floor for remaining position:** There were no nominations from the floor

**New BOM for 2019/20 announced:**

Scott Chalcraft

Michael Gremmo

Paul Griffin

Rod Gray

Mark Mahoney

Rick Palin

Peter Beck

Michael Withers

Justin Moynihan

Aaron Gonzalez

**Next BOM Meeting – Wednesday 09/12/2019 – 6:30PM – Hills Bulls Boardroom – For BOM Role nominations**

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## 5. Topic **General Business** | Presenter *All*

### **General Discussion was had on:**

Steve Marks – asked if there plans to light up the new small field behind Fields 1 and 2:

- Michael Gremmo advised that Smada Electrical had been asked to supply a Lighting plan. Mick advised hopefully we might start seeing some work happening on lighting next year, and if Council doesn't want to fund it, then the Club would look at whether it can finance it.

Rob Zecchin – asked what projects were being looked at for next year:

- Michael Gremmo advised that we were looking at a temporary fence around the top of Club House to be used as a viewing stand while we work with council on next stage, there is also a separate gym being discussed with Council (assisted by Parramatta Eels) and lights on rear oval.
- Rob Zecchin also said Thanks for installing the downpipes on the shed in middle of fields.

Rob Zecchin – asked when Oztag State Cup was on, so we can work out dates for next season Rego days:

- Michael Withers advised that the Junior dates were:
  - Under 12 to Under 17 – Coffs Harbour – 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> February 2020
  - Under 9, 10 and 11 – Bankstown – 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

Rob Gleeson asked if we still wanted to have a password to be able to access and download team/player photos on his website which was agreed that we will keep the password in place to restrict who can get access.

Rob Gleeson asked for thoughts on whether we should look at selling the photos he takes throughout the year. It was agreed that it is something to be looked at in the new year.

Matt Reardon – asked if we could look at introducing Perpetual Awards for the Girls seeing we are starting to see an increasing number of female attendance in the sport at our Club

- It was agreed that we would wait to see critical mass over next season and then work out if we introduce these perpetual awards.

**Meeting Closed:** 8:05PM