

2017 Annual General Meeting

11/12/17

President's Report

I take pleasure in presenting the 2017 President's Report for the Pokolbin Rugby Club

2017 was a year we continued to build. With 59 registered players, some who played every week, some who played every other week or only played once. The Reds finished 7th out of 9 teams, but this does not reflect the effort put in by the players and how close a number of games were during the season. A big thank you to the coach for the season, Michael Doody, it was great to have a coach dedicated to ensuring the players gave their best each and every week and also good numbers at training. Michael stepped in at the last moment when last years coach Mark Langley was struck down with brain cancer and passed away in April, our thoughts are still with his family. We have retained Michael for season 2018. Also thanks to John Richards, Steven Charker and Trish Emery for their strapping.

This was the Seniors and Juniors first full season at St Philips Christian School Cessnock. The Club has finalised an MOU that has allowed us a permanent home at St Philips.

Off the field we had the Ladies Lunch having its most successful year, thank you to Heather Sutherland, Sally Gough and Sally Scarborough.

Our junior's fielded 3 teams as 2017. The work that the parents put into these teams is outstanding.

We also had a single junior netball team in the Cessnock Competition this year, they had a very successful year with winning Minor and Major Premierships. The clubs most successful team to date!

On the financial side, the Club continues to get great support from the local community. The wine and grape industry, retailers, local businesses and parents put time and money into the Club. The PRC ended 2017 in a strong cash position.

Another very important part of the Club is the Foundation Members and their support, whether just financial or at the games, I thank them for their continued support.

Thanks to Gary Wills, Simon Gough, Angus Sutherland who are stepping down this year as committee members. Gary has been integral to the club for over 6 years as a member of the junior committee, coach of his son's team since its start in the U7's, Senior Committee Member and treasurer for the last 4 years. Simon has been a committee member for the past 4 years and a constant helper on the BBQ (plus Sally) for the Juniors and Seniors for a number of years. Angus again has been on the committee for a number of years and coach for his son's teams since their inception, and always ably helped by Heather. Many thanks from the Club for your efforts and committee support.

I would also like to thank the committee members who are staying on; Andrew Duff, Andrew Murphy, Michael Doody and Lee Sparks. And Michelle Wills as our paid secretary.

Finally the Pokolbin Rugby Club has a bright future ahead of it. The enthusiasm of the junior teams and parents, the energy of current players in chasing new players, this seasons coaching staff in Michael Doody and the end goal of our own ground will keep the Reds viable.

Jerome Scarborough

President