

Inverell Sporties Limited

## Chairperson's Report 2022 - 2023.

67<sup>th</sup> Edition

Members,

It is again that I present this report to you as Chairman of the Board, for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

This year I am changing the order of my report, by thanking those from the Board and Management Team that have made this year successful, thanks to Darrel (and his wife Lynn) as the senior Deputy Chairman for your guidance and assistance during this year, and to Phil our other Deputy Chairman, you may not have been around as much Darrel (as you work full time), but to you and your wife and fellow director Sonya, again I also would like to add my sincere thanks for being my 'sounding board' on many occasions, to the rest of the board and your 'significant other persons', many thanks for your dedication to the job, so let's continue doing the same this current year, this year also saw the departure of Alan Mephram, replaced by Stephen Pearce and Bob Adamson, who has been replaced by Rob Sides, Stephen and Rob who filled the casual vacancies at short notice, welcome aboard, and to my wife Bernadette, thanks for letting me spend time with the team at Sporties (or as she calls it "Home" when she wants me out of her house).

The last financial year has been interesting to say the least, changes in Management saw the resignations of Nathan Hughes and Chloe Nichols and the appointment of Damien Smith and Tracey Tindall as their replacements, this caused some disruption and issues which I am please to say have all been put behind us and the club has passed the Audit this year with little fuss and the whole management team consisting of Damien, Tracey, Tracy Oppy and Jenna Payne are to be congratulated on their performance, usually done with a cheery smile.

"Cashless Gaming", at the time of writing this report we still do not seem to have any concrete decision on how and when this will be happening, I will leave Damien to expand on this further in his report, but it is sufficient to say that Cashless Gaming should not be implemented in a way that will push consumers to online gaming where the prevalence of problem gambling is much higher than licenced premises. Additionally online gambling provides minimal employment and pay little or no taxes unlike Pubs and Clubs. With this scenario the only winners will be the online operators. Whilst our club supports the use of technology to support problem gambling and the use of technology to ban problem gamblers and criminals from gaming rooms, this together with the Clubs NSW Gaming Code of Conduct we will be able to actively meet all requirements of this additional burden, however this does not come without costs (both in time and monetary) as the club's Board Members will have to undergo additional mandatory training over the next twelve months to ensure that the club is compliant.

Trading this year has been successful as you will see by our Financial Report but briefly, we returned a *net operating profit* of \$121,355 (\$274,518 Loss LY including the 'cash write-off of \$103,240), after depreciation and write offs of \$422,278 (\$409,360 LY). Unfortunately, last year included in the loss was a discrepancy of (Cash write-off) \$103,240 this was disclosed in last year's financial report and mentioned in the Auditors Report and their Governance Letter to the Board for that year. At the time of writing last year's report this matter was under investigation by PKF Integrity Unit based in Sydney and could not be commented on, their report since then has been received however it was not able to 'pinpoint the reason/fault', their report was made available to those members who wished to review it.

In the Notes to the Financial Statements Note 18 Contingencies disclosed an ongoing matter lodged with the Fair Work Commission by an employee together with the Australian Workers Union, at the time of writing this report I have been notified by the Australian Workers Union that they have on behalf of the employee have lodged a F50 Notice of Discontinuance with the Fair Work Commission, and the Deputy President of the Fair Work Commission has advised that the 'file is closed'.

On a different note, it is also pleasing to see that our membership has increased to around 4,100. Whilst there were many 'new members' during the year, it appears that most of them may have been travellers who joined up to take advantage of our 'member discounts'.

Congratulations to all staff members, without you the club (business) would not function. As previously noted there have been substantial changes in our management team since the end of the financial year, so to Damien and the teams that are under his control, (Administration, Bar & Outdoor), on behalf of the Board and members I would like to thank you all for a 'job well done.' To Damien going forward we, as a board are here to help you as and when required. During the year we have seen fresh faces behind the bar, some have stayed on, some haven't and at the time of writing this report we have received Clayton's resignation, I am sure the board, management and members wish all those who have come and gone and or are leaving in the very near future all the best in your future endeavours.

The Bistro operators Gary, Ben & Peter from Pure Kitchen Catering Pty Ltd and their staff, I on behalf of our members extend to you a big thank you, your service and menu has been second to none and we hope that you will be around for a long time to come.

To our members that have lost loved ones, please accept from the Board and members our sincere sympathy and most heartfelt condolences at your loss.

Bowlers, this has not been an easy year for you all, but you have survived, I have left the nitty gritty of your achievements to your own sub club committee reports, but under the circumstances also a job well done, and I am pretty sure that 'lawn bowls at Inverell Sporties' is and will continue to be well and truly alive, it is also good to note that some of the local schools are participating in giving their students a 'taste' of lawn bowls.

To our other 'sub clubs', Touch Football (finally going again), Darts, Cricket, Footy Tipping, and Punters and many other sporting organisations, you all have represented 'Inverell Sporties' in a good manner and the Board congratulate you on your achievements during the last year, this year also saw the Club become the Major Sponsor of the Tingha Tiger Cubs "Ladies League Tag Team", this team continued on their way to complete a second year straight undefeated in the Group 19 Ladies League Team competition, well done Ladies.

As 'Inverell Sporties' is a club that has sport as its main aim, we intend to maintain our direction at this stage to promote sport in our district when and where we can and to provide and maintain our facilities so as to offer "*a place that you would rather be*" by offering pleasant surroundings to come and enjoy a meal, beverage of your choice and if you so desire a 'flutter' on Racing, Keno and Electronic Gaming Machines.

Briefly, in 'round figures' we have incurred capital expenditure of over \$100,0300, as follows.

- Building Alterations & Improvements \$50,000
- Gaming Machines \$28,500
- Clubhouse Plant & Equipment \$ 1,900
- Greens Plant & Equipment \$ 600
- Furniture & Fixtures \$ 19,300

Going forward it is still the intention of this board to continue to develop and improve the facilities of the club, we will persist (cash gaming permitting) with our plan to renew our complete 'gaming floor' every 5 years, and also whilst it wasn't achieved in the last financial year it is still our intention to provide a more child friendly area for families to enjoy the summer months and associated entertainment.

John Hobday,

Board Chairman. 2 September 2023