

Burnside Rugby Union Football Club Annual General Report

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Seventy-Fourth Annual Report

2020 AGM
November 19th

Agenda

1. Apologies & relevant correspondence
2. 2019 AGM Minutes
3. Business arising from previous minutes
4. Positions held in 2019
5. President's Report
6. Vice President's Report
7. Secretary's Report
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Sponsorship/Finance Manager's Report
10. Operations Manager's Report
11. Players Representative's Report
12. Director of Rugby's Report
13. 2020 Award Winners
14. Other Correspondence (if any)
- ALL POSITIONS DECLARED VACANT
15. Election of Returning Officer
- ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
16. President 17. Vice President 18. Secretary 19. Treasurer
20. Sponsorship/Finance & Planning Manager 21. Operations Manager
22. Director of Rugby 23. Players Representative
24. Other Business
25. Election of Life Members
26. Presentation of Finances

1. **Present:** Wally Bell, Kathryn Van Diemen, Ron Lowe, John O'Neil, Alasdair Hamilton, Steve Foreman, Martin White, Wayne Vincent, Charlene Du Toit, Rebecca Vincent, Dougie Turner, Jan Turner, Jake Pepper, Jacob Devlin, Will Bailey, Phil Doherty, James O'Connor, Henry Hamilton, Josh Bailey, Ciaran Sambrook, Greg English, Jeff Lindsay, Andrew Hamilton, John Difilipo, John Bradley, Mike Meredith, Louis Fagan, Win Greenshields, Declan O'Callaghan, Tomas Greenshields, Chris Walton, Mike Gunn, Drew Gunn, Nigel Chapman, Blair Marshall, Tom Hankey, Ben Delaney, Lindsay Power, Ed Gmeinder, Georgina Gmeinder, Patrick O'Reilly, Sophie McClure, Peter Williams, Jordan Cetta, Matt Delaney, Fraser Green, Matthew Park, Paul Stevenson, Emma Pienaar, Keanu Eliepa, Dan Duffy, Chris Henry, Richard Gillam, Mick Embury, Mick Henry, Matt Henry, Katherine Devlin-Matthews.

Apologies: Lindsay Power, Paula Davies, Brad Ashby, Catherine Arnfield, John Stankovich, Peter Goodchild, Mark Roderick, Lachlan English, Mandy Hines, Mark Hines, Peter Baker, Leesa Kenny, Michael DeVizio, Sean Meredith, Bonnie Meredith, Megan Maualaivao, TJ Maualaivao, Pat O'Sullivan, Cameron Green.

2. **Minutes of the 2018 AGM Accepted:** Accepted by Win Greenshields, Seconded by Andrew Hamilton

3. **Business arising from previous minutes:** None

4. **Campaign speech for the position of DoR - Patrick O'Reilly**

Exception to agenda was made as Patrick regrettably needed to leave early

5-10. President, Vice President, Secretary, Sponsorship & Finance, Operations, Players Representative, Director of Rugby and Treasurers Reports (Inc. presentation of finances) presented in annual report

- Question re strapping being included in the physio costs because coaches aware that players are buying their own tape.
: To be addressed by 2020 committee
- Questions asked about expenses for functions.
: Functions resulted as cost neutral
- Question asked about why costs for trophies was significantly higher in 2019.
: Two years' worth of trophies were paid for in 2019.
- Question re why financial report isn't distributed electronically with the AGM report. : has not been historically for security of club financial info
- Question re number and success of social functions : 2019 Players Rep cited work commitments as the reason he did not do the social planning expected of the role. Tom Hankey did his best at short notice and the President thanked him for his work. Also noted was the significant disadvantage provided by the draw.
- Question re accommodation costs
: Costs associated with supporting players from UK
- Questions re capital repairs being over budget.
: Explained unplanned expenses re dishwasher, line marker etc.
Finance report accepted by Charlene Du Toit and Seconded by Katherine Devlin-Matthews

11. Election of Life Members:

Drew Gunn spoke for Mike Gunn: Nomination supported by quorum of executive committee members

Kylie Sunners spoke on behalf of Megan Maualaivao for Greg English: : Nomination supported by quorum of executive committee members

Nominees left the room for show of hands vote count

Vote result = Mike Gunn - Passed 100% Greg English – Passed 100 %

12. Correspondence for AGM/General Business: None

13. Election of Returning Officer: Ron Lowe

ALL POSITIONS DECLARED VACANT **ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

14. President: Greg English

Nominated by Lachlan English, Seconded by Sid Spicer

15. Vice President: Kathryn Van Diemen

Nominated by Katherine Devlin-Matthews, Seconded by Catherine Arnfield

16. Treasurer: Roy Kelly

Nominated by Declan O'Callaghan, Seconded by Greg English

17. Sponsorship & Finance Manager: Declan O'Callaghan

Nominated by Greg English, Seconded by Tom Hankey & Katherine Devlin-Matthews

18. Operations Manager: James O'Connor

Nominated by Declan O'Callaghan, Seconded by Bianca Bailey & Katherine Devlin-Matthews

19. Secretary: Katherine Devlin-Matthews

Nominated by Jacob Devlin, Seconded by Catherine Arnfield

20. Players Representative: Andrew Hamilton

Nominated by Patrick O'Reilly, Seconded by Andrew Hamilton

21. Campaign speech for the position of DoR - Phil Doherty

22. Director of Rugby:

Phil Doherty - Nominated by Declan O'Callaghan, Seconded by Wally Bell

Patrick O'Reilly - Nominated by Patrick O'Reilly, Seconded by Andrew Hamilton

Secret Ballot was taken and counted by Katherine Devlin-Matthews & Ron Lowe (counters agreed by both nominees)

Successful Director of Rugby candidate: Phil Doherty

23. Other Business: Nil

24. Meeting closed @ 2050hrs

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Business arising from previous minutes

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Positions held in 2019

Executive committee Members

President	Greg English
Vice President	Kathryn Van Diemen
Treasurer	Roy Kelly
Secretary	Katherine Devlin-Matthews
Players Representatives	Andrew Hamilton
	Superseded by Isaac Partington & Louis Fagan
Operations Manager	James O'Connor
Sponsorship Manager	Declan O'Callaghan
Director of Rugby	Phil Doherty

Premier Grade Men, Premier Reserve Men, & Third Grade Men

Coach	Alasdair Hamilton	Coach	Jonny DeFilippo
Coach	Wayne Vincent	Manager	Will Bayly
Coach	Tom Hankey	Manager	Pat Betham
Coach	Pat O'Sullivan	Manager	Mike Gunn
Coach	Michael DeVizio		

Premier Grade Women

Coach	Rory Sorongan	Coach	TJ Maualaivao
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Under 18s

Coach	Jeff Lindsay	Coach	Josh Rahaley
Coach	Peter Williams		

Under 16s

Coach	Phil Doherty	Manager	Jodie Moroney
Coach	Steve Moroney		

Under 14s

Coach	Paul Stevenson	Manager	Mandy Hines
Coach	Kevin Dinan		

Under 12s

Coach	Rebecca Smith		
Coach	Matthew Wilson	Manager	Catherine Parkin

Under 10s

Coach	Matt Park	Manager	Anthony Yale
Coach	Nigel Chapman		

Under 8s

Coach	Pat Betham
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Under 7s

Coach	Kathryn Van Diemen	Coach	Bonnie Meredith
Coach	Chris Walton		

Meetings convened & attended

Immeasurable chaos, ever changing restrictions and simultaneous impact on work commitments required that while there were only a handful of face-to-face meetings, most committee meetings were facilitated online and supported by hundreds of emails, messages, texts, phone calls, and individual or small group catch ups/chats/strategy plans. All members attended consistently throughout the season.

Committee Support Roles

Merchandise & Kit Superstar	Win Greenshields
Welfare Officers	Will Bayly & Jodie Moroney
Child Safety Officer	Katherine Devlin-Matthews
Member Protection & Information Officer	Katherine Devlin-Matthews

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President's Report

It is a great honour to present my first Annual Report as president following on from Wally Bell, who was at the helm for five very successful years.

The 2020 season has been like no other with COVID-19 forcing many changes, some of which may stay with us for a long time. In March we were forced to close the club as we tried to deal with the large amount of government regulation imposed on the club. This was undoubtedly a challenging time for the Committee as we quickly got up to speed with the COVID rules and regulations and implemented strategies to allow us to proceed as usual.

Despite COVID, we were able to field competitive Senior Men's and Women's teams each week. In one of the closest competition in years our First grade team had opportunities to claw our way to the top of the table, but unfortunately, we fell short in a few key games which meant that we finished third which made our draw in the finals difficult. Unfortunately, a few injuries to key players cost us in the finals. Like the First grade, Second grade also missed a few opportunities during the year to finish in the top two and get a favourable draw. Second grade also lost players to work commitments and injuries which adversely affected their performance in the finals. Third grade was unlucky not to make the finals with a couple of results in the last round not going our way.

Our Women's team were going well until mid-season when they too were affected by injuries. The Women's team played an exciting brand of attacking rugby which drew a lot of supporters. However, the team's defence and in particular the try line defence were the highlights of the year. In the semi-final, the team only had 15 fit players available with an injured reserve on the bench. The game was played in hot weather which made it difficult with no fit replacements available. Despite this, the players defended their try line admirably and should be proud of their performance.

Overall, our Junior teams performed strongly with the U14, U16 and U18 all making the grand final. We had more Junior teams in the grand final than any other club. Congratulations to the U14 and U16 for winning the grand final. The U16 game was nerve-wracking with Burnside scoring in the last minute to achieve a close victory. The U18 match was equally tense, but unfortunately, we were unable to score the winning try and were narrowly defeated. All of our Junior teams are to be congratulated on a fantastic season. Our Junior grades are all looking good with outstanding player registrations, good quality coaches and managers and terrific support from parents.

One of the most pleasing aspects of the Senior performances this year was the progression of many Junior players into Senior rugby, and we are very excited by the level of talent and future potential of many of these players. We are confident that with a big offseason that many of these players are capable of playing in the top grades for many years to come.

Despite the many COVID related challenges we faced, our coaches and managers are to be congratulated for their outstanding efforts in season 2020. We managed to field a team in every grade every week and our coaches and managers led by example in implementing our COVID safety management plans.

In addition to our success on the field, we also achieved a significant milestone with the Burnside Council agreeing to support the construction of a new clubhouse. This approval was the culmination of years of hard work by cricket and rugby. The Council approval is just the first step, and we still need to get financial support from State and Federal governments before any construction can commence. If our current rate of progress continues, then we are confident that we will be able to start construction within the next 18 months.

Even though the businesses of all of our sponsors were also adversely affected by COVID-19, we are incredibly grateful for the support that they gave us in these difficult times. A club our size would not operate without the generous support of our sponsors, and we certainly acknowledge the support of all sponsors, but in particular, our Double Blue sponsors SADB and Voiteck. SADB has been a significant sponsor of the club for 25 years, and their continued support has been crucial to our success. There are too many sponsors to name individually, but please accept our thanks on behalf of the club.

This year saw the introduction of five new committee members. It is undoubtedly a very hard-working committee, and each member is to be congratulated for their hard work and success in 2020. The Committee acted quickly and efficiently when confronted with COVID and in particular our ability to make tough decisions in the best interest of our players and supporters. For example, within days of the COVID shutdown we had: formulated and implemented detailed COVID safety management plans; significantly reduced player registration fees to help our players who were also facing COVID financial difficulties; implemented changes to improve the game-day experience and maximise game-day revenue. It has certainly been surprising how much the Committee has been able to achieve in such a short amount of time.

While we are appreciative of the support of our major sponsors, one of the biggest surprises this year has been the support of our players and supporters. The COVID related changes described above and a reduction in significant sponsor revenue meant that we were starting the year about \$30,000 in the red. However, through the support of some players who refused to accept a refund when the fees were lowered and donations and contributions from supporters, we have managed to finish the year in a strong financial position.

Despite all of the challenges we faced, we enjoyed success on and off the field and have finished 2020 in a strong financial position. This could not have been achieved without the support of our volunteers who were cooking BBQs every Thursday and Saturday, setting up and packing down the fields, cleaning the clubrooms and acting as COVID and ground marshals. Also, thanks to all of the staff who made our game day and club experience enjoyable. Lastly, we could not have achieved what we did without the selfless support of the parents, carers, partners and friends who made sure that our players were able to get to training and games. It is said that Burnside has the best supporters in South Australian Rugby and this was proven again in 2020.

We are excited by a number of things both on and off the pitch that will hopefully set the club up for some strong years ahead. We are Adelaide's premier rugby club.

Greg English

It has been a pleasure to serve as the BRUFC Vice President in 2020. Straight up, thanks and acknowledgement must go to our families for supporting their children to choose rugby and enabling their commitment to the sport and to Burnside. In a year of uncertainty and risk, what became obvious was how important rugby was to so many people, young and old, for a variety of different reasons. It was awesome to be a part of the Burnside rugby community.

A quick wrap around the junior teams; 18s; Clearly the best team through the minor rounds, heartbreakingly going down to OC in the grand final. Still a stellar season with much to be proud of. 16s; Played the game of their lives in the grand final! Massive credit to their never-give-up attitude, which was often put to the test through the season, and they fully deserved their premiership. 14s; A consistently quality season culminating in a dominant grand final win, again, fully deserving of their premiership. 12s; some mixed results during the season but consistently showed improvement. Were unlucky to miss out on finals but their last game v OC finally displayed the self-belief that had been lacking! 10s; Good numbers and a squad that continued to grow as the season went on. Again, some mixed performances but when on song displayed all the elements of quality rugby. 8s; Struggled with numbers especially earlier in the season. However, the small group benefited from close attention from the coach, showing marked improvement in individual skills and confidence through the season. 7s; Nearly half their games through the season managed to run two pitches reflecting strong numbers across many clubs, this also great format for the kids getting ++ game time. By end of season displaying phases of great team play.

A massive thank you to all coaches and managers of our junior teams. We sincerely appreciated your patience and compliance as we changed training times, changed pitch allocations, asked you to bleach kit before and after training etc etc. Even when the COVID dust had mostly settled by the end of the season, leading into finals we still needed to mix up training nights. Credit goes to Phil Doherty for his best efforts to make trainings work for everyone, and on a few occasions "taking one for the team" offering up his U16s to make necessary compromises.

Credit also goes to Kath Devlin-Matthews for her persistence in ensuring all our coaches and managers achieved accreditation. The club benefited from the experience of Nik Nagel as Director of Team Management who guided our managers, assisted with injury paperwork and game day app. It makes it so much easier to encourage volunteers when you can confidently offer them expert support in their roles.

Presentation day will look a little different this year as the cricket season is well underway and covid regulations prevent the usual "shared buffet". We are excited to introduce "50 game shields" for our Juniors, which were made possible by the data collection and mammoth efforts of Tony Bedford over the last couple of years. We intend for the shields to reward loyalty and consistency to the club and hopefully provide an incentive to keep returning for further seasons. In a staggered introduction, this year shields will be presented to the 18s and 16s who have achieved this milestone, and next year we will catch up the backlog presenting to 14s to and below. Going forward, in the season that a player achieves 50 appearances during the home and away games, they will receive their personalised shield. Each year with the club will be engraved onto the shield and a summary plate presented at end of their final season. With resources going into the shield, we've scaled back other trophies and medals for the juniors. U10s- U18s will continue to present 3 awards per team, and players from all grades will receive a certificate with an individualised message from their coach and in 2020 will receive a drink bottle from the club.

There are a number of things I am hoping for the opportunity to implement/oversee in 2021, re-appointment to VP and global pandemic willing! Some of these things simply weren't possible for this season, others we ran out of time for but are firmly on agenda going forward;

- "Live" recognition of milestone game appearances each week
- Return of the U14 end of season rugby tour – We will initially fundraise and plan for a NZ tour as previously, but if international travel poses too greater risk/problem, we'll explore domestic tour options
- Junior Fun Day – a day with fun activities – jumpy castle, bubble soccer etc especially for our juniors
- "Buddy" programs between junior and senior teams.
- Pre and post season feedback surveys.

Finally, thanks to the other members of the committee for being a great team to work with under extraordinary circumstances this season. In particular, special thanks to Greg and Kath for all their support to me throughout this year.

Kathryn Van Diemen.

7. Secretary's Report

I am privileged to have had the opportunity to be club secretary for a fourth consecutive year and have largely achieved what I had hoped to this year. Our coaches, managers and committee achieved 100% individual compliance with coaching quals, DHS Working with Children Checks, volunteer registration and training in Child Safety, by the start of the original season. Thanks to everyone for understanding the importance of this and replying to my endless emails & messages about your certificates.

One of the first tasks of the year was to set up the committee in G-Suite so that our records became cloud based and fully accessible online. Thanks to Declan who kicked this off. I have transferred the last four years' worth of records, templates, minutes, etc to our drive; a process that will make transition from outgoing officer barer to incoming office barer much easier, not to mention improve communication, document exchange and collaboration among the committee throughout year. It has been a pleasure to work with this committee of professional, dedicated and driven individuals.

Although there are still areas of the website that need updating, I figure that may always be the case! I aimed this year to provide a one-stop-shop, with the intention that new players and families could find the answers to all of their questions on the website, and that all existing club members could feel comfortable directing new people to the site, safe in the knowledge that newbies would find what they needed. The job of website maintenance fell in to my lap a couple of years ago so I am extremely excited to have received an offer of help, from a professional software engineer and web designer no less, so watch this space.

Club Photos were a big success judging by the number of orders and smiles on kids' faces when they saw themselves. We engaged a new photographer from SFX images this year who certainly provided a much higher level of quality photography. Coordinating club photos is a complex and difficult task. I am grateful to those who helped along the way and would like to remind our families that not all clubs organise photos every year. We do so voluntarily and have sought feedback through surveys. It provides a beautiful documentation of our teams and I look forward to volunteers putting their hand up to assist with this as a mini project in 2021.

Sports Vouchers were processed as usual after a virus fuelled false start. The claim process for Rugby in SA is outdated and time consuming but it results in each primary school aged child receiving \$100 reimbursement for their fees. We are committed to continuing the claims as long as the State Government funds the program.

Senior Awards is another area I consulted on this year, seeking information via Louis and Isaac on preferences of trophy or collectable but usable item. We arrived at engraved stemless wineglasses with matching wooden coasters and have heard only positive praise. Well done again to all the winners.

Registration has been in the same application (Rugby Xplorer) again this year and I am so grateful for it (it changed every year for three consecutive years!). What this has meant is that I have become more proficient at using it, and that it has been further developed. Fees were set and later changed but overall, the registration process was simpler this year than in all previous. State transfers, clearances and squad set up is all managed through Xplorer and I'm told there are more improvements in the pipeline for next year. I am looking forward to the club being able to add purchasable items to our app so that tickets for social events can all be bought online through your Rugby Xplorer app. Fingers crossed it comes through in 2021.

I had to sign off on more insurance claims this year than we would have liked (and that I have received in the previous three years 😊) but thanks to everyone who worked with me to make a claim.

Should I be voted to sit for another year on the committee, I will be determined to engage some fresh faces and experienced heads to support the club on sub committees and smaller project roles. I am certain that breaking roles in to smaller more palatable portions, will encourage more individual involvement.

My only disappointment this year was that I didn't manage time to do the revamp of the women's and girls change rooms. After consultation with some junior females on what they want, we had a skeleton plan but we may need to pick this project up again next year. Of course we will remain mindful of the bigger plans ahead!

Thanks for your support this year; while the workload can be huge, so is the love. Kath Devlin-Matthews.

8. Treasurer's Report

In an extremely different year we managed to make an overall surplus. This was as a result of a combination of support from our generous sponsors, our members, rent forgiveness from the Burnside City Council, Cash Grants from SARU, the State Government and Australian Tax Office. A new initiative this year was the introduction of tax deductible donations through the Australian Sports Foundation which helped us raise significantly more donations than last year.

Kylie, Megan and their team worked very hard in these difficult circumstances to give us 67% of the Gross Profit we made last year. A big thank you to all those that supported our Bar & Catering and worked with us to comply with COVID restrictions. Both women and men Calcutta's raised good money for the club.

We managed to contain our expenditure to 65% of last year. The monies raised through the Sports Foundation has been put aside to be spent on new player equipment for next season. As a result of some unexpected grants we managed to put some money aside for the new clubrooms.

A big thank for to all members, donors and sponsors for their financial support during the year, which has resulted in the club ending this difficult year in a healthy financial position. Roy Kelly

9. Sponsorship/Finance Manager's Report

2020 certainly was a very trying and interesting year. In the portfolio of sponsorship, we were certainly concerned in Pre-Season how we would fair. Needless to say, the Burnside community rallied around and we came through with flying colours. I am typically not lost for words, however when the telephone and calls went out this year, I was delighted by the response from everyone. The club spirit is

alive and well in our community. The positive response we received was amazing, whether it was the parent giving an extra \$50 or the major sponsorships from SADB and Voiteck. Everyone stood up, thank you.

This year we made an exciting addition to our fundraising efforts with the Australian Institute of Sport Foundation. This allows Donations to the club for the benefit and development of Junior and senior Rugby. The major benefits of this are the simple administration and the tax benefits the donors receive. This was an outstanding success raising nearly \$10,000 in its first year.

Next year (hopefully post COVID) will be bigger and stronger. With the possibility of a new club house construction, the community again will be asked to stand up and contribute to our club. I would ask if you missed out on sponsoring or donating this year please reach out, whether it is purely philanthropic or you need a hand in driving your business we are here to help.

Thanks to the fellow committee members, volunteers, staff and the overall playing group. This year was a challenge, but we stared it down and succeeded.

Declan O'Callaghan

10. Operations Manager's Report

It was with sadness that I took this role just prior to John Bradleys passing. I had sat on the committee with John for a couple of years prior and it seemed like a natural progression to stand for his vacated position. Many thanks to John's family who ensured all his previous documentation made it to me, which included many files, meeting notes and invoices. From an Operations point of view I would also like to thank the new committee members who stepped in during 2020. It was a pleasure to work with you all. Your assistance with a lot of the day to day "doing" within the club makes its operation so much easier and provides for such a better Member experience.

The 2020 season was always going to be a tricky one operationally given we had made the prudent decision to pay all staff differently. Budget and resourcing would become a concern. With the tremendous help of Kylie and Roy we arrived at a viable system, mindful of providing a continued level of service but one at which the club could afford.

And then came COVID. Anyone who has had to deal with the logistics of this Pandemic will understand what we had to go through. Lots of confusion followed by the club just getting on with it. Thank you to everyone for what was in the most part very well handled. Your patience with delays in things like the Gym and also bar service was fantastic. The changing Government direction about when we were able to open, where we could stand and what and when we could drink meant each week we were revising our plan.

Although COVID restricted its use we did experiment with our on pitch "Can Bar" this year which was a real success. It made it easier for the visiting teams to get a drink, reduced wait times at the main bar and became another viable income stream for the club. Although having a few issues with some key suppliers during the year, the offseason should give a chance to review some of these. Thank you to a couple of the "club tradies" who stepped in to help as well.

As we can all appreciate we have an aging asset in the form of the clubhouse. A broken hand dryer here, failing electrics there and various other little issues meant bands aids were a constant throughout 2020. With recent events it will hopefully be more of the band aids rather than full replacements as we prepare for a new home.

We all know that clubs like ours are run on the back of the volunteer base. Many thanks to various players, coaches and members who helped with set up and pack down each Saturday. The BBQ support on game day. It is always interesting to see some of our teenage boys on the tongs for the first time! Thank you to the Thursday night BBQ crew who show up to ensure the Steak night tradition continues. Good help is hard to find so to the Canteen team who make sure the kids are well supplied with donuts, chips, soft drinks and hotdogs, thank you.

Finally to Kylie and Megs. The amount of additional time and effort that these two wonderful humans put in should not be underestimated. The club operates the way it does because we have strong people, who are passionate about it, working hard to deliver on the expectations of the Members. Finally never underestimate the help you can be. Roll out a table, stack some chairs, carry up a carton, empty a bin. It all helps.

James O'Connor

11. Players Representative's Report

The 2020 season had a lot of unexpected obstacles but ultimately we believe it brought the club together and has shown the true strength of the Burnside family.

This season meant a lot to the playing group as it was an opportunity for first grade to back up their premiership win and for second and third grade to improve on the past years performances and for the women's team to show that although they have lots of new-to-rugby players they were still a threat.

Results didn't end up going our way but the playing group really stepped up to embrace the season and stayed committed throughout. Ultimately we were happy to be able to play this year given the circumstances.

All of the new senior players, whether they were new transfers, U18s stepping up or new to rugby altogether, showed great attitude. The Bunnies had an awesome but unlucky season, struck by an awful string of injuries at the business end of the season. A special mention to third grade who through some head scratching rules were taken out of the finals bracket. This sucked and wasn't good to have that opportunity taken away.

On the social side, although it was a little touch and go and some events had to be downgraded, we would like to thank everyone for having fun and committing to events when we could hold them. Notable mentions would have to have been New Players Night with almost as many new players there as existing and Beer Pong night where we had a record 66 entrants. Huge acknowledgement needs to be made to the Bunnies who always represented huge at every event.

Thanks to everyone at the club for operating within guidelines during the social events which fell within no seat no drink rules. Regardless of how much of a pain it was, it did make for some good boat race antics.

We would like to thank all of the committee for holding our hands through this year and if we get the opportunity to hold this role again we have lots of ideas for the club to move forward.

Although all senior teams fell short of a flag this year both of us are incredibly proud of the passion for the game, love for the club and the care we have for each other on and off the pitch, it is truly inspiring to see and we hope to see the same attitude again next season.

Love from Louis and Isaac (the peoples prop and the penguin)

12. Director of Rugby's Report

Despite Covid and the stop start season we have had strong playing numbers across the majority of teams this year, with most teams able to select a bench for the majority of games throughout the season. Our one area of concern was our Under 8s team, however, numbers improved over the season.

Recruitment focus for 2021 will still be within the U8-U10 space as well as strengthening the depth of our Women's squad.

Performance Summary 2020

Premierships – U16 & U14

Grand Final Teams – U18, U16 & U14

Minor Premiers – U18 & U14

Finals Top 4 – Premier Grade, Reserve Grade, Senior Women, U18, U16 & U14

Senior Men - A challenging year with a stop start preseason and then the Covid training restrictions with limited time before the start of the season. The final game of the season summed up the season with a series of key injuries at crucial times meaning that even though the spirit and battle never stopped they just didn't have enough to book a place in the grand final.

It is testament to this team and the standards that they have set over the last 5 years that there was such disappointment that they didn't make the grand final this year. Hopefully this will only make them more determined in 2021 and with the blend of young talent coming up from the juniors alongside the existing quality we already have this should be a very exciting time for our Senior Teams.

The Reserve Grade have been competitive throughout the season and have produced some of the most entertaining games of rugby. Unlucky not to make it to the grand final, that Elimination final win against Brighton at Brighton will live long in the memory. They also managed to blood many juniors and give them a taste of what is to come next year.

Great numbers in the 3rd grade this year with weeks where we could only select 23 players and had to drop 5 or 6 to the bar. A weird mathematical equation at the end of the season dropped the team out of the top 4 but they left us with the highlight of the entire season, thanks Matt Parks.

Wayne, Al, Tom, Pat & Devo have done an incredible job this year under very testing conditions. A special mention to Pat who after many dedicated years of coaching at Burnside has decided to retire. A hugely popular coach who will be sorely missed across the teams and coaching staff.

Senior Women - We always saw 2020 as a development year for our Ladies team and Rory did a fantastic job building them throughout the season. This is a group with fantastic potential and ability and it showed with some huge results, the best being the only team this year to beat eventual Premiers Onkaparinga 39-17.

Unfortunately, towards the end of the season too many injuries to key players meant they went into the finals without any substitutions and although their performance was full of grid and determination they succumbed to Brighton in the last 10 minutes of the game.

If we can increase numbers next year and continue the upward trend a grand final isn't too far away.

Under 18 - A very talented group that ended the season as Minor Premiers. Unfortunately, they left their worst performance of the season to the grand final where they narrowly lost to Old Collegiate. A painful but valuable lesson learnt on how to play finals footy.

This shouldn't distract from a very successful season for these players, where we also had 5 U18 players put in accomplished performances for the senior grades. Thanks to Bluey, Peter & Josh who have always gone above and beyond with the team this year.

Under 16 - Premiers for 2020 after a thrilling one point win against heavy favorites Brighton, in what was a highly competitive league this year with 5 teams battling it out all season. For some players this was their 4 Premiership win in a row which is a fantastic achievement.

Given that this team lost 4 key players this season and had to integrate 8 new players many of which had never played rugby before is testament to the fortitude of these players who never seem to know when they are beat.

Under 14 - Premiers & Minor Premiers for 2020. Paul & Kev have had another superb year and really got the best out of a very talented group of players. They have been dominant throughout the competition and even though they had a scare in the semifinal, like all good teams they found a way to win when the pressure was on. For most players this was their first premiership but I have no doubt it will not be their last.

Under 12 - Unfortunately the season ended just as this team was starting to fire on all cylinders. A slow start meant that they had too much to do at the end to make finals.

Thanks to Chippy for all her hard work this year and driving those improvements within the team over the season.

Junior Teams - Plenty of fun and plenty of tries scored from our U7, U8 and U10 teams. Really good to see our Junior coaches making their training sessions fun but also focusing on skills and structure which was really evident when you saw these teams play. Luckily the U10s didn't listen to their coach Matt Parks when he demonstrated how to score a try.

Thanks to the coaches for all their hard work and effort this year, no one knows how hard it is to coach this age groups until you have done it!!! U7 - KVD & Bonnie, U8 – Pat, U10 – Matt Park & Nigel Chapman

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2020 Award Winners

Premier Grade Men Best & Fairest	Nichel Lam Sam	Premier Grade Men Coaches Award	Ben Delaney
Premier Grade Men Captains Award	Chris Walton	Premier Grade Men Players Player	Max Hodell
Premier Grade Women Best & Fairest	Rachel Jose	Premier Grade Women Coaches Award	Kate Tihema
Premier Grade Women Captains Award	Darcy Alfred	Premier Grade Women Players Player	Sophie McClure
Reserve Grade Men Best & Fairest	Mark Wilkinson	Reserve Grade Men Coaches Award	Callan Bird
Reserve Grade Men Captains Award	Ethan Nguyen	Reserve Grade Men Players Player	Saul Lopa
Third Grade Men Best & Fairest	Josh Trubuhovich	Third Grade Men Coaches Award	Jared Vanmaili
Third Grade Men Captains Award	Eugene Lagana	Third Grade Men Players Player	Jonny DiFilippo
President's Award	Will Bayly	Jim Dow Award	Kat Van Diemen
Mick Hocking Award	Kath Devlin-Matthews	Enzo Pilla Award	Win Greenshields

ALL POSITIONS DECLARED VACANT**Election of Returning Officer
ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE****16. President**

Nominee : Greg English

Nominated by Lachlan English

Seconded By Sid Spicer

17. Vice President

Nominee : Kathryn Van Diemen

Nominated by Wayne Vincent

Seconded By Rebecca Smith

18. Secretary

Nominee : Katherine Devlin-Matthews

Nominated by Isaac Partington

Seconded By Max Hodell

19. Treasurer

Nominee : Roy Kelly

Nominated by Kathryn Van Diemen

Seconded By Katherine Devlin-Matthews

20. Sponsorship Manager

Nominee : Declan O'Callaghan

Nominated by James O'Connor

Seconded By Kathryn Van Diemen

21. Operations Manager

Nominee : James O'Connor

Nominated by Declan O'Callaghan

Seconded By Kathryn Van Diemen

22. Director of Rugby

Nominee : Phil Doherty

Nominated by Phil Doherty

Seconded By Greg English

23. Players Representative

Nominee : Isaac Partington & Louis Fagan

Nominated by Kath Devlin-Matthews

Seconded By Max Hodell

24. Other Business**25. Election of Life Members****26. Presentation of Finances**