



Chairman's Report 2019/20

Since December last year we have been subjected to more challenges than we have ever faced before. As with all businesses in the area we had little Christmas trade, little Easter trade, bushfires, wild weather and forced closing for over two months.

We are still in a strong financial position. With government help we were able to keep most staff connected to their jobs. While we were closed our manager and some of our staff were able to paint inside the club and take part in training courses. Tough times have enabled our staff to develop their skills and relationships with customers. At times our staff have had to deal with difficult situations and they do so in a professional and empathetic manner.

New tables have been purchased for the clubhouse. We have replaced the larger tables which have served us well for many years. The area inside the club now looks fresh and spacious. We also purchased and installed a new generator for backup power. Thanks to Peter Lack and Ray Noon for the time consuming installation.

The ladies rest room is undergoing renovation during September and is getting a new fresh new look. Ladies will be using the disabled facilities during the renovation.

Plans are being drawn up for a large outdoor entertainment deck, a new kitchen with bistro type food, an indoor and outdoor eating area and a children's play area. We are also including water tanks in the DA application as well as an alfresco addition to the Asian restaurant.

You are probably aware that food is becoming the single most important factor in the success of clubs and pubs. With two breweries opening in Huskisson we are facing 23 other local premises with liquor licences.

We must build on our food offerings to attract a larger range of customers.

We made the decision to restrict visitors to 2540 and 2541 post codes to endeavour to protect the health of our staff, members and guests. This has adversely affected our trade, but was necessary to ensure that people feel safe in our community club. Many of our members and local visitors have expressed their feelings of safety when at Husky Sports. This decision was not made lightly and is under constant review as situations change and develop.

Husky Sports App is a way for us to connect to our members while they are not on the Club premises. The app is available on Apple and Android platforms and offers special deals at the bar like free drinks, free points on your card or 'buy one get one free' deals.

Thanks to our umpires and selectors for men, women and mixed events. These are thankless but important positions which must be filled. Our ladies club members control their own affairs as a club within the Licensed Club, but they also contribute enormously to activities which help us maintain our image as "the friendly club".

I also want to thank our CEO Felicity White who is dedicated to the success of our club. As well as running the day to day affairs of the business, she manages staff training and liaises with all the relevant government bodies and their numerous regulations. Felicity manages a dedicated staff team who are all keen to promote our club to tourists and potential new members.

Rae Booth, Bob Strauss, Doug Easey, Bruce Urquhart, Harry Croft, Brian Ricketts, Ken and Jann Choice, Annie Swinbourne and many others volunteer around the clubhouse and grounds.

Don Booth deserves a great deal of thanks for the numerous things he does for Husky Sports. He is involved in most aspects of our club including the greens and our transport vehicles. Dave Caldwell does a great job as bowls organiser and also contributes to many other aspects of club activities. Paul Winchester is heavily involved in improving club facilities. He sets up the bar most days, works on the door Thursday evenings and is a regular back up to bar staff when needed.

We welcome Scott Mathieson as our new greenkeeper. Scott has recently moved into the Bayswood housing development and will be a local in about twenty years. Scott is an experienced greenkeeper who will be a great asset to our club.

During the last year we have lost some good friends and colleagues. Our best wishes go to the families and friends of those who have passed away.

All our directors have contributed to many sections of club operations. While we all contribute to decision making, directors also contribute in a practical way by using the skills that they have developed. Thanks to our team of directors. Special thanks to Norm Parkes for his constant work in club finances.

Thanks also to partners of directors who demonstrate great patience at times. Thanks to my wife Lorraine who is always here to help.

I again stress the importance of positive attitudes, so that we may continue building our community club. We are always open to positive suggestions which may help to implement new ideas.

Mark Schofield
Chairman

