



Chairman's Report 2020/21

After another year of challenges, such as we have never seen before, the board of directors is pleased to announce a profit of \$274,000 for the year ending June 2021.

It is interesting that even though we do rely a lot on tourism at Easter and Christmas, we have found that we are strongly supported by locals when tourism is not possible.

We have continued to make relatively small, but important changes to our clubhouse. The ladies rest room has been completed and a new room has been built to replace the old stage. The greenkeeper's shed has been expanded to include space for all our outdoor equipment and barefoot bowls equipment now has a new storeroom. The club grounds are continually being improved and we are regularly congratulated about the surrounding gardens. The Asian restaurant has been improved with new flooring and wall decorations.

Covid 19 Health Regulations have impacted greatly on the way we do business, but all staff and members have adjusted to QR codes, medical masks and sitting down to eat or drink. Staff have many challenges which you wouldn't imagine. Recently visitors tried to enter the club by changing addresses on digital licences. This is against the law and our staff were quick to respond by denying them access to the club. Please remember that our staff are impacted by alcohol, gambling and health regulations which are constantly changing.

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. Over the last difficult two years, Felicity has worked with our accountants to ensure that we could help our staff as much as possible while the club has been forced to close. Felicity manages a dedicated staff team who are all keen to promote our club to tourists and potential new members. Our staff are multiskilled with expertise in bar work, cocktails, gaming machines, TAB, KENO, barefoot bowls and mini golf. Our club has a strong culture of volunteering and it is not limited to members. In the difficult times when we have been closed by Covid health regulations our staff have worked regularly inside and outside the club to give the place a fresh new look. You don't find staff like that everywhere.

We have updated more of our gaming machines and now have more attractive and interesting gaming rooms. We feel it is necessary to point out that Husky Sports demonstrates a very responsible approach to gaming. Our gaming machines are there to

enjoy if people like them but we do not promote their use. We strictly adhere to NSW gambling regulations and we are always watching for behaviour which may indicate that a player has a gambling problem or is attempting to launder money.

With as many as 24 liquor licences in Huskisson, we continually look for opportunities to add something different to the sporting and recreational activities which we offer. **Corn Hole** is one of these things. It is a very popular indoor or outdoor activity involving throwing corn bags into a target. We will be providing opportunities to play this sport inside and outside. Some very good demonstrations of the sport can be found on Youtube.

This year we again supported NSW Health Breast Screening by providing a parking position and 32amp 3 phase power. The facility provided a service to 535 local women over 3 weeks. We also provided free coffee or soft drinks to all involved. Special thanks to directors Peter Lack and Ray Noon for the difficult job of connecting and disconnecting the vehicle to power.

As a community 'not for profit' club, we support the Van Gones Golden Oldies Rugby, the Mako Dragon Boat club, the Huskisson Vincentia Soccer Club, the Man Walk, local schools and the Shoalhaven Homeless Hub. We recently donated \$500 from bowlers to the Shoalhaven Homeless Hub. While a representative of the Homeless Hub was receiving the cheque from our manager, a quick whip around by Bill Benson collected more than \$500.00 extra to donate. This was a very generous response from our members and visitors.

During this year men's and women's bowling associations have joined together at state level. This has not necessitated any changes to the way we run bowls at Club level.

Thanks to our umpires and selectors for men, women and mixed events. These are generally 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".

Special thanks to Bruce Urquhart, Doug Easey and Bob Strauss who work behind the scenes in our club administration. Ken Choice also helps to keep our mini golf course looking good. Don Booth and Dave Caldwell volunteer regularly to carry out many activities to keep the club rolling along. Again, thanks to Don Booth, Dave Caldwell and Paul Winchester for our popular "Big Dave's Trivia". Graeme Atkinson does great work as our communication man. Derek Garnett runs the popular Crown and Anchor game on ANZAC day and regularly helps conduct the Thursday Meat Market.

Our bowling greens and grounds are probably the best in the area thanks to greenkeeper Scott Mathieson and apprentice Jamie Wayside. Thanks again to Dave Caldwell who does a great job as bowls organiser.

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. We hope for a quick recovery for any members who are ill.

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 through their careers. 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.

We have been planning some additions to our club for some time and we are gradually completing the arrangements for a new kitchen, toilets, overhead lighting, playground and outdoor eating area. Two computer pictures are attached to represent how the new area may look. We are hoping for additions to be completed and operating by Easter 2022, but things can move slowly in the building industry.

Many small clubs have been forced to close and many have been absorbed by very big clubs. We believe we are in the position to make our club more attractive to more people and continue to be a successful business. Our club is one which operates a successful business. We are NOT a business which operates a club.

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 and services for our members and visitors.

Mark Schofield

Chairman

