

BHMG INC

BRISBANE HOCKEY MANAGEMENT GROUP INC



2012 Annual Report



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

**Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc.
Forth Annual Report**

President: Greg Swann

Secretary: Kathleen Proctor

Treasurer: Paul Saunders

Committee Members: Ian Harcla, Ian Jones, Karin Walduck

Brisbane City Council Marchant Ward: Cr Fiona King

Full Time Facility Supervisor: Tony Freshwater

Casual Facility Supervisors: Robyn Sneddon, Mark Turner & Andrew Dawson

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past year has seen continued improvement achieved at Burringbar. Our third full year of operation of the centre as Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc. (BHMGM) has seen the construction of a new dugout and technical bench facility, continued stable facility management and further consolidation of our financial position.

At the time of last year's report we had recently achieved the replacement of the artificial surface through obtaining a grant from the Queensland Government. This year the balance of the grant was used to build a new dugout and technical bench facility to improve playing and officiating conditions. Other significant maintenance works this year included rectification of drainage and foundation problems with one of the light poles and replacement of the pump for the watering system. New goal boxes were also installed through a Gaming and Community Fund grant and funds from BHMGM.

While the financial viability of Burringbar is strong, cost pressures continue to be experienced, in particular for electricity. Changes to the way electricity charges are applied have seen a large increase in electricity cost, not for usage, but for network connection charges.

The priorities for BHMGM in 2012 and now going forward are to continue to run the centre on a commercial basis to ensure self-sufficiency, maintenance of the facility and to make provision for the next replacement of the artificial surface as well as progressive improvement of the facility. Given the age of the centre, a range of maintenance issues with the watering system and lights can be expected to continue – many of which are costly to repair or replace.

A facility development strategy was also developed to guide future improvements to Burringbar. High priority items are construction of a viewing deck to improve spectator amenity and repairs to the grass fields. The grass fields provide revenue across the year from other sports and need to be kept in good condition to meet the needs of these sports as well as hockey.

Administrative systems were streamlined and improved across 2012 with more of the administrative roles around bookings and account issuing undertaken at the centre by the facility manager and ensuring users have prompt and current accounts to improve payment times. This will continue across 2013.

Maintenance of the facility continues to be good with the grounds and facilities being clean and presentable. Thank you to our Facility Manager, Tony Freshwater, and his team –for your commitment to the good maintenance and operation of the centre.

It is pleasing to note that this year has seen a number of major achievements by BHMGM in improving the facility for Brisbane Hockey, a major advance from when BHMGM assumed responsibility for the centre following the demise of Shawsportz which left Burringbar with no funds, an artificial surface at the end of its life as well as many maintenance issues.

The achievements this year would not have been possible with the continuing commitment and work of our Secretary, Kathleen Proctor and Treasurer, Paul Saunders. Both have key roles within their associations and have also continued to work hard to establish and improve the BHMGM operation of Burringbar Park. The continuing commitment and work of representatives on BHMGM is appreciated.

In closing I would also like to acknowledge the support and involvement of Brisbane City Council through Ms Fiona King, Councillor for Marchant Ward and Council representative on BHMG. Fiona's involvement and support including the Brisbane City Council contribution to the replacement of the artificial surface is acknowledged and appreciated.

Greg Swann

SECRETARY'S REPORT

At our AGM on December 2nd December 2011 our new Board was elected unopposed. We farewelled Ann King who had been involved on the Board since the inception of BHMG. She was replaced by Ian Jones. Thank you Ann for all your hard work over the years, we wish you well with your future endeavours.

As permission had been given by the State Government to utilize the remnant funding from the turf upgrade to upgrade the Player and Technical Benches, there was a lot of work to do during the off-season to have plans drawn up and building done. As the area earmarked for this development already had a footprint, it made the plans more difficult and limited the size and shape to what was available.

Thank you to John Giles (Architect & Project Manager) and Shane Bradnoch (Builder) for your energy, enthusiasm and professionalism throughout the project.

While this project was being completed, through the generosity of sponsors an electronic scoreboard was installed. This has been the best buy for the facility, being a bonus for all that use the facility: players, umpires, coaches, officials and spectators. Thank you to the KWSHC, KWSC & Max Traks for your support of our facility.

While the Technical and Players Bench has finally provided a decent facility for our players and officials, the placement has meant a restriction on viewing from the previously available areas. We are now looking at what we can do to address this issue going forward. This is part of our facility development plan, a plan that was initiated when we took over the lease of Burringbar Park; we have been successful in keeping the upgrades, refurbishments and maintenance to schedule with limited finances, thanks in no small part to the State and Local Government grant assistance and the hard work of our dedicated staff and board members.

Again the age of the facility caused some maintenance issues with the grass sprinklers needing repairs and the turf light towers re-aligned. The heavy use of the grass fields which provides income to pay for the mowing and marking, means that wear and tear in a dry winter has had an impact. We are looking to do some maintenance work in this area early in 2013. We were also grateful to receive funding for new goal nets for the Turf to replace the wooden backboard goal nets, which required major work every 3 months – these have been a great asset. Thank you to Ian Harcla for all his work on grants this year.

Tony Freshwater as the Facility Supervisor has been a great asset; he works tirelessly for the facility. He has taken on additional responsibility this year, doing the bookings and invoicing. This has assisted greatly with the bookings, but fine tuning is still needed with the invoicing and debtors. We hope to have this working effectively in 2013. Thank you to Kathy Mehonoshen who assisted in getting Tony set up and trained with MYOB. Thank you to Susan Johnston at BHA for looking after the creditors and the general financial control under the direction of our treasurer Paul Saunders.

Kathy Proctor
Secretary

TREASURER REPORT

FINANCE:

I am pleased to present the 2012 Financial Statements of the Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc., for the period beginning 1st October 2011, ending 30 September 2012. The accounts have been audited and appear in this Annual Report.

Brisbane Hockey Management Group has now completed the third full financial year of trading. It is pleasing, that our trading surplus is above our projected budgeted position.

BHMG's focus for the past financial year was to complete the building of a new Technical bench, players' dugouts and electronic scoreboard. This has been achieved.

Currently, \$100,000 is quarantined towards future replacement of the artificial surface.

As always – our financial position is only as sound as our systems - my sincere thanks to Susan Johnston for her overall bookkeeping and control of accounts. My thanks also to Tony Freshwater, who has overseen the changeover in our invoicing system and bookings and to Kathy Proctor, BHMG's secretary, for her immense experience, ongoing Board assistance which is always tempered by her reliable temperament.

FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, STAFF:

The complex has had Tony Freshwater and the other facility supervisors continuing the ongoing maintenance, repairs, cleaning and supervision of users and spectators.

The former technical bench has now become the new office for supervisors, giving them a highly visible presence and the ability to monitor activities throughout the facility.

We incurred a break-in to the machinery shed and numerous items of equipment were stolen. The offenders were caught, but recovery of missing items didn't eventuate.

Five new set of nets were obtained through a grant – these have aluminum back boards hopefully this should cut costs and time in replacing backboards.

The exponential increase in the supply of electricity is a major impediment to prudent management and is an issue that is ongoing. As water costs continue to rise, BHMG needs to be ever vigilant of the overall management of this resource.

I would like to thank Ann King, who has stepped down from the board. Ian Jones seamlessly filled that vacancy on the BHMG management board and I also wish to thank him along with fellow BHMG board members, Greg Swann, Karin Walduck, Kathy Proctor and Ian Harcla for their unstinting commitment and drive in the control of Burringbar Park.

Paul Saunders
Finance & Facilities

EQUIPMENT, STAFF AND FACILITIES REPORT

Equipment.

The maintenance equipment is in good order as we have a new Lawn Mower, Whipper Snipper and Blower Vacuum. The Ferris mower has been booked in for hydraulic repair and service as per our maintenance schedule.

The new Goal Boxes funded by a grant have reduced the repair costs greatly.

Field Maintenance.

The Turf and Grass field lighting has improved with some electrical components replaced in the grass field poles and a number of new bulbs, and the repair of the leaning pole.

The grass irrigation maintenance is on-going as a number of valves had to be repaired or replaced this year; the turf field system may also require further replacement valves in 2013.

The Turf field will be booked for a professional vacuuming at seasons end, and we will discuss with the contractors if there is any other maintenance requirements, to keep it at the best possible standard.

On completion of our summer hockey all the turf field fence bases will be repaired and boarded for protection.

The Grass fields have been repaired and spot dressed twice this season the latest being in September, the current procedure doesn't allow for any re-growth to occur as regular users don't allow time for the re-growth to stabilise. We will need assistance from the BBC or a Grant to sow, aerate and top dress the fields to bring them back to hockey standard, if we don't we won't be able to accommodate hockey next year, budgets may need to be considered to cover these possibilities.

The Car Park night security lights were reconnected after a number of years.

Shane the Builder has measured up for the viewing platform, and we hope to have sketch's and estimates for the boards consideration.

We have had a lot of excellent feed back from players and coaches since the completion of the new Tech Room, Dug outs, Score Board and International Goals.

Staffing.

We may require some casual week-end replacements pending on Mark and Andrew's availability, with Robyn continuing in the 2013 season.

Office Invoicing.

I took over the invoicing for the facility hire this year the transition has had it's ups and downs which lead me to utilise Kath Mehonoshen and her vast MYOB knowledge on a regular basis, thank you Kath for all your assistance, hopefully I will not have to call on you so much in 2013.

Field Bookings and Edit Grid.

The Field Bookings were moved from BWAH to BP, the transition has been reasonable smooth once the clubs knew the procedure, I will be looking at Clubs giving improved information this year which will help with bookings, invoicing and contacting. Edit Grid will be up and running much earlier next year.

The 2012 season has run reasonably smoothly as staff have had a second season to improve their efficiencies.

Tony Freshwater
Facility Supervisor

CANTEEN, GRANTS AND FUNDING REPORT

2012 was a year of consolidation for BHMG. After replacing the turf in 2011, the Board applied the residual funds from the grant for the turf to upgrade the player and Tech Bench facilities on the turf field. Thank you to the State Government for the major funding we received for this.

Also, the Board was able to install a new electronic scoreboard thanks to sponsorship from the following:

- Kedron Wavell Services Hockey Club
- Kedron Wavell Services Club
- Max Trax

The lack of a scoreboard has always been a point of concern for the facility since inception and the new scoreboard has been well received by players, spectators and officials.

Further, the Board received a grant from the Gambling Community Benefits Fund to buy new goal nets which will replace the old heavy nets used on the grass fields. This will allow the supervisor to move the nets more easily and safely, and also protect them from damage by other field users.

The Board is now considering ways to enhance the spectator facilities around the turf field and improvements to the grass fields to ensure safe and quality fields for our grass hockey players and other grass sports.

The canteen was impacted by lower sales during the year probably due to concerns in the economy about jobs. KWSHC has been mindful of the hockey community by keeping costs as low as possible which has also impacted revenues. Club days at the field, particularly with the local clubs, have been a positive for the canteen and should be encouraged by the various groups.

Ian Harcla