

BHMG INC

BRISBANE HOCKEY MANAGEMENT GROUP INC



2013 Annual Report



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc. Fifth 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, John Bigg, Andrew
Dawson

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past year has seen continued improvement achieved at Burringbar. 2013 was our fourth full year of operation of the centre as Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc. (BHMG) since commencing part way through the 2009 season. This year has been one of continuing the improvement and maintenance within a stable facility and financial management framework.

Unfortunately we were unable to secure grants for further improvement of Burringbar during 2013. Despite this a number of facility improvements were made, including rejuvenation of the grass fields, repair of the water tank to fix leaks and general maintenance of the facility due to its age and wear and tear. Plans for a viewing deck have been developed and will be submitted for a range of grants in 2014.

A future grant towards the cost of providing a second turf at Burringbar has been promised from the current Commonwealth Government. The grant was announced during the Commonwealth election campaign by the Honourable Julie Bishop MP (now Minister for Foreign Affairs) on the turf at Burringbar. This is promising news and will now require further work to develop the proposal and gain further support from the state government and the Brisbane City Council to bring the second turf to fruition.

While the financial viability of Burringbar is strong, cost pressures continue to be experienced, in particular for electricity and water. 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 BHMG in 2014 and 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 can be expected to continue - many of which are costly to resolve.

A facility development strategy continues to be developed to guide future improvements to Burringbar. High priority items are construction of a viewing deck to improve spectator amenity and continuing improvement of the grass fields. The rejuvenation undertaken in 2013 requires further work to maintain and extend the improvements made to date. This will involve additional costs for water. This is an important action as 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.

The administration of BHMG benefitted from the streamlining of administrative systems implemented in 2012. These changes resulted in 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 2014.

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.

While there have not been major improvements to report for 2103, this year has seen the continuous improvement and maintenance of 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.

I would like to note the continuing conflict that BHMGM faces in providing a turf facility for Brisbane Hockey at the lowest cost practicable while maintaining and improving Burringbar and saving the funds required for turf replacement. BHMGM acknowledges the cost to players for turf hire and strives to balance this within its financial responsibilities to provide for the continued operation and maintenance of Burringbar.

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.

Greg Swann



SECRETARY'S REPORT

At our AGM on December 7th December 2012 our Board was elected unopposed. Our committee meets on the first Friday of every month. I thank all the board members for their commitment to the meetings and the association.

At the AGM it was noted that we will continue to work to update our aging facility and provide a venue that hockey enthusiasts and other community groups want to use. Throughout the year we have continued to look for funding to provide upgraded and modern facilities. Ian Harcla will have a full report on this, but to date we are still looking for funding to build a covered viewing platform.

During the run up to the federal elections, we were also given an undertaking of Federal funding of \$300K towards a second turf at Burringbar Park. We are now working on the ability to progress this development of the precinct. Thank you Ian for all your hard work in this area.

KWSHC continued to run the canteen to allow our patrons to purchase quality product at reasonable prices. All money raised from the canteen stays in our sport, so we encourage you to utilize the facilities provided. Thank you to KWSHC for your work with this. We also saw a new shed placed in the facility for KWSHC to allow them to house their club equipment, this now leaves the storage shed to be used for BHMG equipment exclusively.

Tony Freshwater our Facility Supervisor has worked tirelessly throughout the year ensuring the facility always looks clean, tidy and prepared for all events held there. Our major undertakings this year included moving the finances to the "cloud" thanks Susan and Tony for your work with this; extensive maintenance and repair work on the grass fields; repair of a major water leak on the grass fields; repair of the turf water tanks; and replacement of a significant numbers of lights on the turf. We have also had a number of issues with broken windows in the Tech Bench and the clubroom and we are investigating ways to minimize this risk in the future.

Greg Swann during his brief retirement from work, spent many hours researching and sourcing the best options for us in regard to the water tank repair and the waste removal system. Thank-you Greg, for all your enthusiasm and diligence with this.

Both Karin & Ian J bring a wealth of hockey knowledge to our discussions and enable us to make informed decisions for the future of the facility. Thank you for your time and wise counsel.

Paul Saunders manages our finances, in conjunction with Susan and Tony who look after the days to day accounting. While the financial results this year have been disappointing, we still retained a small profit before depreciation and improved the quality of the facility. Unfortunately due to rising costs we will have to increase our turf hire to ensure we have a sinking fund available to replace the turf and other infrastructure in the future. Thanks Paul for all your hard work with this, especially dealing with the electricity accounts, which are the bane of our association.

Kathy Proctor
Secretary

TREASURER REPORT

FINANCE:

The 2013 Financial Statements of the Brisbane Hockey Management Group Inc., for the period beginning 1st October 2012, ending 30 September 2012 are hereby presented. The accounts have been audited and appear in this Annual Report.

It isn't particularly pleasant to find that in the fourth year of trading, Brisbane Hockey Management Group has recorded a minimal trading surplus.

Overall, projected revenue was down around \$20,000 although income for Touch football was back on track after a dip last year.

Expenditure was \$5,000 above budget, with the most significant item being Grass field maintenance. Water costs rose some 30%, mainly we suspect due to ongoing leak on the grass fields and some refilling of the tank after repairs.

Electricity continues to be a major drain, although usage isn't the problem - it the unreasonable Network charges that continue to plague this organisation.

BHMG has no choice but to increase user charges for the new financial year, to at least maintain the status quo.

This year "the Cloud" took control of the accounts and Susan Johnston in her inimitable fashion helped Tony Freshwater, through the vagaries of this new facility for our invoicing systems.

As always Kathy Proctor, BHMG's secretary, maintains the momentum chasing delinquent accounts and also her ongoing Board assistance. A big thank you to Kath.

FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, STAFF:

Tony Freshwater and the other facility supervisors continue the ongoing maintenance, repairs, cleaning and supervision of users and spectators at Burringbar Park.

The new technical bench windows have had a number of replacement sheets of glass and every effort has been made to alleviate this problem.

There are plans to repaint the internal canteen area and this should hopefully be completed by the end of December.

The BHMG board of management board meets the first Friday of almost every month at 7.00am and I wish to thank my fellow BHMG board members, Greg Swan, Karin Walduck, Kathy Proctor, Ian Jones and Ian Harcla for their concern, drive and commitment to foster hockey at Burringbar Park.

Paul Saunders
Finance & Facilities

EQUIPMENT, STAFF AND FACILITIES REPORT

Staffing

- Should be able to retain the same staff for 2014.
- Robyn Sneddon will be available to do Friday nights and Sundays as Robyn now holds another job, I recommend we look out for another person with good computer and maintenance skills.

Turf and Grass Bookings 2014

- Field usage will start from 20/01/2014.
- Turf has solid bookings for January and a number of clubs are taking up their full training spots from 1st week February.
- Touch football time tables are in and both clubs will start from the 20/01/2014 onwards. TRL will take up Wednesday nights using 1 or 2 fields after Junior Hockey training finishes at 7pm.
- BWA have booked 60 hours of Sunday training with us.
- Metro. North S.S. has booked 39 hours turf and 7 hours grass.
- Summer Hockey has diminished on 2012 figures and may further decrease in 2014, when budgeting for 2014 the following should be used as a guide: juniors 36 hours seniors 32 hours.

Maintenance

- Grass fields will be fertilised on the 20/12/2013, quote approved.
- Canteen, Storeroom, all doors and frame, skirtings, paved paved floor areas will be painted in the off-season, all work will be completed by 20/01/2014.
- Machinery is all in good order. Ferris battery replaced, small mower serviced.

Tech Room

- We do have an issue with window breakages, signs have been put in place, they only curb 100km per hour Hockey balls to a degree, one of the following is recommended.
- Replace Toughen glass with Perspex -waiting on quote.
- Place 3mm overlay on windows cost approximately \$400.00.
- Place netting similar to what's in place at the goal ends, this has been recommended by a number of international players and personal who have seen similar set ups as ours in their travels this is most likely the best option as Tech staff have to leave doors and windows open on occasions and what I have gathered on competition days there have been some near misses with balls coming into the Tech room.

Lighting.

- An ongoing maintenance plan and budget will need to stay in place as the internal workings of light poles are deteriorating and a number of lights are fading.

Irrigation.

- Water waste issues have been addressed, water tank repaired, two valves replaced on the grass field, there are another two valves which may need replacing in 2014.

Budgeting.

- For the benefit of all a copy of the budget should be forwarded to BP for the facility manager to monitor and the BP manager can then be informed if spending or income is being maintained on say a quarterly basis, this would alleviate a number of issues which has arisen this year and a much earlier input could have occurred.

Seating/Viewing.

- I would like to make a suggestion we investigate the cost of seating similar to Downey Parks No 1 field both ends of the Tech Room, this would allow for immediate viewing until we win favour for a viewing platform, should the grant become available sometime in the future the seating could be moved to the eastern side as improved seating is also needed there.

Signage.

- BP still needs new front gate signage

In summing up our year at BP it's had the challenges of any small business dealing with plant, equipment and humans, but all in all, it's been a successful year for BHMG and I have been happy to be a part of it, as I know Robyn has.

Thank you,

Tony Freshwater
Facility Supervisor

CANTEEN, GRANTS AND FUNDING REPORT

A focus for 2013 was the improvement of spectator facilities at Burringbar Park primarily for the artificial surface. Plans have been drawn up and grant applications were made with the State Government with no success. The Board has made a submission for a grant from the BCC and is hopeful that funds will be made available in 2014.

The BCC did fund grass field improvements early in 2013 and the improved quality of the grass fields is now apparent. With good weather conditions over summer it is hoped the grass fields will be even better in 2014. The Board appreciates the assistance from Kedron Wavell Hockey and the touch football groups in delaying their 2013 usage of the fields to allow the improvements to have the greatest effect.

The canteen showed improved patronage over the winter season which provided an increased profit share for the facility. Kedron Wavell continued to be mindful of the hockey community by keeping costs as low as possible. Running the canteen requires a significant amount of manpower from Club volunteers (approx. 1400 man hours for the opening times plus cleaning, maintenance and buyer's time) and the efforts of the Kedron Wavell Club are commended in maintaining this service to the hockey community.

Ian Harcla

