

Annual Report for the year ending 31st March, 1952, presented at the Annual Meeting held at the Commercial Travellers Club, Melbourne on Friday June 27th, 1952.

OFFICERS FOR 1951

President	Mr. A.E.Gordon Webb
Vice Presidents	Messrs. H.R.Balmer and CA.M.West
Hon. Secretary	Mr. I.J.Taylor
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. G.J.Flood
Hon. Auditor	Mr. K.H.Boykett

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege and pleasure to submit, for your approval, the twentyfirst Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council, covering the operation for the year, 1951.

MEETINGS Three meetings of the Council were held during the year, The meeting held in Adelaide during the currency of the Jubilee Carnival was of special interest, as most of the States were represented by delegates directly in touch with their Association, thereby enabling them to obtain a more intimate idea of the work of the Council.

DEATH OF KING GEORGE VI. On the occasion of the death of our late Sovereign King George VI, a letter of condolence was forwarded through his Excellency the Governor-General, expressing the sympathy of the Council and Member Associations, to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the members of the Royal family.

The following is a copy of a letter received from Buckingham Palace:-

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

24th March, 1952

Dear Sir,

I am commanded by the Queen to express to you and to all those on whose behalf you wrote, her sincere thanks for your kind message of sympathy in her great loss.

Her Majesty greatly appreciates their thought of her and her family at this time.

Yours truly,  
Edward Ford.

I.J.Taylor Esqr.,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Australian Lacrosse Council.

COMMONWEALTH JUBILEE LACROSSE CARNIVAL. The outstanding event of the year was the Jubilee Carnival which was held in Adelaide from August 4th to 11th. Only three States, Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia participated, and to give additional interest to the series South Australia was given permission to enter a second team. The result of the games was South Australia No. 2 team however would not be counted

in the competition. The trophy for the competition was donated by the Commonwealth Government.

Aug. 4 Sth. Aust. No. 2 - 4 goals V Victoria 4 goals.  
 Sth. Aust. 12 goals V West. Aust. 3 goals.  
 Aug. 8th Sth. Aust. 8 goals V West. Aust. 2 goals.  
 Victoria 18 goals V. West. Aust. 2 goals.  
 Aug. 11th Sth. Aust. No.2- 15 goals V. West. Australia 4 goals.  
 Victoria 9 goals V. South Australia 7 goals.

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

	<u>Played</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Goals</u>	
						<u>Against</u>	
Victoria	2	2	-	-	27	9	
Sth. Australia	2	1	1	-	19	12	
West. Aust.	2	-	2	-	5	30	

REGISTERED PLAYERS. The following table sets out the number of registered players and teams in each State compared with the previous season and the pre-war year of 1939. These figures include schoolboys and country teams.

	<u>1951</u>		<u>1950</u>		<u>1939</u>	
	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>
Victoria	44	690	44	660	68	1139
Sth. Aust.	26	371	32	478	55	809
West. Aust.	22	317	30	460	24	417
Queensland	-	28	4	63	12	186
New South Wales	-	-	4	45	4	63
Commonwealth	92	1406	114	1706	163	2614

FINANCIAL The Treasurer when submitting the financial statement will report a credit balance of £29. 12. 1 at the Commonwealth Bank.

STICKS The stick position is still very acute and is retarding the progress of the game. A parcel of sticks obtained from Pakistan were not up to standard and generally speaking were very disappointing. The South Australian Association is to be congratulated in its efforts to interest a local firm Messrs. P.J.Brady, in the manufacture of a stick from imported timber and this article is now being tested in all States. It is to be hoped that this stick will stand up to match conditions.

NEW RULES. The alteration to the Laws of Lacrosse providing for a smaller field and a reduction in the number of players from twelve to ten, agreed to at the last meeting of the Council as an experiment for 1952 is now being tried out in all States. A full report will be submitted to the Council later this year.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT At the Adelaide meeting of the Council delegates were requested to supply details of their members records, who had been nominated for the certificate. So far Member Associations have failed to supply these details; when same are received the certificates will be issued.

STATE OF GAME From a perusal of the above table it will be seen that lacrosse is at a record low level, no fewer than 300 players being lost to the game for the period under review. In New South Wales the game, so far as I can ascertain, is defunct. I have written repeatedly to the Secretary seeking information, but have not even received the courtesy of a reply. Regarding Queensland it was found necessary to abandon all senior games and concentrate on the formation of a school competition. In this respect it is pleasing to report that four teams have been formed, and the prospects of building up are more hopeful. Our congratulations are due to those stalwarts, who are working so hard to keep the game alive in Brisbane.

In the other States, although there has been a falling off in numbers steps have already been taken to correct this drift and provided sticks are obtainable the game should improve in the near future.

PERSONAL Early this year Mrs. Taylor and myself had a most enjoyable holiday in South and Western Australia and would like to record our sincere thanks to the members of these Associations and especially to the Chairman of Committees of the S.A.L.A. Mr. T.D. McCormick, and Mrs. McCormick and the President of the W.A.L.A. Mr. C.E.M. Hickey and Mrs. Hickey for the many kindnesses shown which were greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

I.J. TAYLOR  
HON. SECRETARY.

18/57

REPORT ON STATE OF THE GAME

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

In my last Annual Report to the Council I called attention to the serious falling off in the number of players as compared with previous years, stressing the fact that the game had lost over two hundred players for the season 1950.

I have just compiled a table showing the number of players as at July 1st this year and I regret to report that a further loss of 23 teams and 300 players is revealed.

From what I can gather New South Wales have ceased playing while the Queensland Association is struggling along with a handful of players to keep the game alive.

The serious loss of players in Western Australia reported this year is most alarming, as no Association can suffer such a loss and remain an effective body unless steps are immediately taken to stop the drift.

The losses reported from Victoria and South Australia are not so serious, but nevertheless are such as to cause grave anxiety as to the future. The reported loss of the Port Peri Association to the game is deeply regretted.

I submit the following suggestions as a means of helping restore the game to its former prestige.

- (1) Carnivals. Should these be suspended or reviewed?
- (2) Interstate visits to Sydney, Brisbane and Perth in 1952.
- (3) Alteration to Laws to provide 10 players and smaller ground

The following table shows the number of players in the various States.

	<u>1951</u>		<u>1950</u>		<u>1949</u>		<u>1939</u>	
	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>
Vic.	39	642	44	660	47	770	68	1,139
S.A.	30	408	32	478	39	560	55	809
W.A.	22	317	30	460	30	467	24	417
Q.		28	4	63	5	66	12	186
N.S.W.			4	45	4	50	4	63
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C'wlth	91	1,395	114	1,706	125	1,913	163	2,614
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Yours faithfully,

I. J. TAYLOR  
HON. SECRETARY A.L.G.

Statement Receipts and Expenditure  
For Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> May 1951

Receipts

Balance from 1950	∩	38	10	8
Bank Interest	∩	15	10	
Subscription, West Australia	∩	2	2	
South	∩	2	2	
Victoria	∩	2	2	0
Queensland	∩	2	2	0
	∩	47	14	6

1950 Expenditure

Printing Certificate of Mail	∩	14	3	
Honorary in Expense	∩	5	5	
Postage & Stationery	∩	1	10	
Bal at Bank	∩	26	16	6
	∩	47	14	6

Balance Sheet

Liabilities:

Nil	.	.	.
Balance of assets over liabilities	∩	31	6
	∩	31	6

31<sup>st</sup> May 1951

Assets

Cash at Commonwealth Bank	∩	26	16	6
Outstanding Fees N.S.W	∩	4	4	
	∩	31	6	

Audited & Found Correct.

*W. H. Boyer*  
30<sup>th</sup> May 1951 A.I.C.A.