

# AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

(CONSTITUTED 1931)



## ANNUAL REPORT - SEASON 1975

Presented to the 44th Annual General meeting of the Australian Lacrosse Council held in Adelaide, South Australia On 6th & 7th February 1976

### MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE REFEREES ASSOCIATION  
QUEENSLAND LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

### OFFICE BEARERS 1975

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Mr. I. W. WILES	(S.A.L.A.)	1975
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS</u>	Mr. F. D. HOGARTH	(V.A.L.A.)	1966
	Mr. G. GRIFFIN	(W.A.L.A.)	1975
	Mr. O. C. ISAACHSEN	(S.A.L.A.)	1962
	Mr. L. S. TURNBULL	(W.A.L.A.)	1962
	Mr. H. VOLK	(V.A.L.A.)	1970
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Mr. C. R. CARR	(S.A.L.A.)	1971
<u>TREASURER</u>	Mr. R. D. C. ALEXANDER	(S.A.L.A.)	1967
<u>INTERNATIONAL LIAISON OFFICER</u>			
	Mr. W. G. HOBBS	(S.A.L.A.)	1972
<u>PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER</u>			
	Mr. A. F. CHIRON	(V.A.L.A.)	1973
<u>HISTORIAN AND RECORDS SECRETARY</u>			
	Mr. T. ALLINGTON	(V.A.L.A.)	1973
<u>PROPERTY OFFICER</u>	Mr. A. J. CARR	(S.A.L.A.)	1974
<u>ASSISTANT SECRETARY</u>			
	Mr. B. GREENHALGH	(S.A.L.A.)	1975
<u>REFEREE IN CHIEF</u>			
	Mr. D. REYMENT	(V.A.L.A.)	1975
<u>AUDITOR</u>	Mr. G. L. DUFFIELD	(S.A.L.A.)	1958

### DELEGATES

<u>A. L. B. A.</u>	Mr. J. C. BUXTON	1974
<u>Q. L. A.</u>	Mr. H. P. EVANS	1967
<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	Mr. D. P. MORPHETT	1973
<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	Mr. G. F. TILLOTSON	1973
<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	Mr. G. HILL	1975

I present for your consideration and approval, the 44th Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council :

After the excitement of the 1974 World Championships played in Melbourne it was thought that 1975 may well be an anti-climax with a rather quiet year at Council level. This has been far from the truth as in fact we have been through a very busy and eventful year.

A National Coaching Conference was held in Adelaide during March, when four top coaches from each State assembled in Adelaide. Each coach submitted a paper on an allotted subject, which was then discussed by the complete panel of coaches. The conference provided an excellent forum for an exchange of ideas both formally and informally, and we were particularly pleased when we were requested to provide a full report for inclusion in the publication "Sport" issued by the then Department of Tourism and Recreation.

The Colts Championships were held in Perth in July, and again provided an exciting spectacle of Lacrosse. Close matches and brilliant Lacrosse were the order of the day.

The Annual match played between Victoria and South Australia was staged in Hobart under the auspices of Council, but regrettably the weather conditions were atrocious and this was reflected in the attendance which was very poor. Suffice to say that all other sports were cancelled in Hobart on that day. On the other hand the game was telecast live through Tasmania, and replayed later on mainland States so the object of the exercise was achieved inasmuch as the game was presented to the Tasmanian public.

But the main activity has been the preparation of the 1976 tour of U. S. A., Canada and England with the International Tournament to be held in Canada in the first week of May. The setting up of itineraries, the selection of officials, the selection of players and the resultant myriad of detail has taken up many hours of time of those concerned.

During January we were favored by a visit from the President of the Canadian Lacrosse Association, Mr. Douglas Budden, and his wife, Pat. Whilst Mr. Budden was only able to visit Perth and Adelaide, we were able to have many hours of valuable discussion with him, and additionally were able to secure publicity in the form of press and radio interviews. It is very pleasing to note the new outlook of the Canadian Association as regards International competition in Field Lacrosse, although our Canadian friends are prepared to develop any form of Lacrosse be it field, box, indoor or "soft" lacrosse as a recreational activity. Canada have formed an international squad of top players to take part not only in World Championships, but to visit all lacrosse playing countries as and when the opportunity arises.

#### AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

As mentioned in the preamble, Colts Championships were conducted in Perth in July. South Australia were the winners of the Turnbull Shield, but full credit must be given to all competing teams for their performances as well as the often overlooked second team provided by the host State. The Western Australian Association carried out the organisational duties associated with the Championships in the manner that we have come to expect, and must again be congratulated on a very fine effort.

The Trophy for the Fairest & Best player of the Championships was won by Paul Lynch of South Australia.

#### ISAACHSEN TROPHY FOR FAIREST & BEST PLAYER 1975

The winner of this trophy was Ross Turnbull of Nedlands Subiaco Club, Western Australia. Ross polled 32 votes in his Association, resulting in a percentage of 59.3. This is the second occasion that this player has won the trophy which surely is an outstanding performance.

#### A. L. C. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

At the 43rd Annual General meeting of Council, Certificates of Merit for outstanding services to lacrosse in Australia were awarded to

M. REDFERN

W. A. L. A.

K. SUGARS

W. A. L. A.

## STATE OF THE GAME

In dissecting statistics it is possible to get many varying answers, and such is the case for 1975. The number of affiliated clubs remained constant, the number of participating teams remained constant, the number of playing grades remained constant, but in Victoria, we find quite a dramatic increase in the number of registered players, especially in the important junior ranks. We do tend to underline the importance of junior players in our sport, but we have still to find the right solution to the problem of keeping these juniors through their senior years. But overall, we can claim a 30% increase in numbers over the past five years and if this rate of progress can continue we will soon achieve our rightful place as a major "minor" sport. And in using the term minor sport I do this in the amateur context as opposed to the professional sports.

Each member association is becoming far more coaching conscious, and this is reflected in greater interest in the sport. There is much to be done in the field of coaching and coaching aids, but at least we are on the way.

One feature of the year that deserves special mention is the spread of premierships throughout clubs, particularly in South Australia and Victoria. In South Australia, it will be noted that no club won more than one premiership, and in Victoria the situation is almost likewise. In Western Australia the practice of competing for premierships in very junior grades was discontinued, and this feature will no doubt be the subject of much debate.

There is little doubt that assistance from the Australian Government has had considerable impact during the past two years, but at the time of writing this report we have no indication of the future. It would be a minor tragedy if sports financial assistance to amateur sports were to be discontinued, but the game has survived for 100 years in Australia without this support, and I have little doubt that if needs be, then we will survive for another 100 years. Not only will we survive but we will continue to progress in a manner that will achieve distinction.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Following upon the 43rd Annual general meeting, meetings were held in Perth during July, co-inciding with the National Colts Championships, and in Adelaide in October. The latter meeting was principally for the purpose of selection of the Australian team to tour in 1976, and to deal with matters relative to the tour.

### INTERNATIONAL LACROSSE FEDERATION

There has been little activity on this scene, but with the advancement towards the 1976 World Championships in England, activity will undoubtedly increase.

### CONGRATULATIONS are extended to :

To Ross Turnbull for winning the Isaachsen trophy for 1975, the second time this trophy has been won by Ross.

To South Australia on winning the 1975 National Colts Championships.

To Paul Lynch of South Australia on winning the Fairest & Best Player trophy.

To Michael Raggatt for again heading his States goal throwing list.

To Altona and Eltham Clubs in Victoria on their outstanding growth.

To all players and officials selected to tour in 1976.

To University Club, South Australia, on winning their first "A" grade premiership in 51 years.

### OBITUARY

The passing is recorded of Mr. H. Hocking and Mr. C. W. T. McKenzie, both of whom were esteemed Life members of the S. A. L. A. These gentlemen were widely renowned in past years for their devotion to Lacrosse and will be sadly missed.

ADMINISTRATION

Whilst there is currently much emphasis on the need for coaching in all sports, and Lacrosse in particular, I am aware that there is also a crying need for administrators. Perhaps this could be construed as speaking from a vested interest, but I can claim to have a rather close observation of the difficulties experienced by each of our member Associations. Each in their turn have their peculiar problems which will be eventually solved, but we certainly lack the close contact and rapport that is so necessary.

There is a distinct lack of people coming forward to assist in the field of administration right down to the grass roots level of Club lacrosse. How often do we find the mere one or two overworked volunteers keeping clubs alive. But of equal importance to numbers, we require the skills of persons who have a conscience -- the desire to get the job at hand done in an efficient and capable manner.

I find that each State Association is administered in a completely different manner, and many hours of debate could be conducted on the merits and demerits of each system. But all do need to work closely together in harmony with the common objective of achieving the end result. Too often do we find envy and jealousy rearing their ugly head, and success will not be enjoyed whilst this is the case. Certainly we must have rivalry - this is the core of any sport, but rivalry kept within reasonable bounds.

In recent years I have labored at length on the subject of communication. In some areas I can see rays of sunshine as personnel changes and I am quietly confident of an improvement in this all too important area.

GENERAL

This report could not be concluded without reference to the many members of Council who have so willingly given of their services during the past year. It is not widely known that all Council Officers are completely voluntary - their reward is the satisfaction of a job well done.

To our President, Mr. Ivor Wiles, may I say a generous thank you for the able support given to me on those many occasions when I have really needed support. Your leadership has not only been appreciated by me, I am sure you have a wide and general commendation.

On behalf of the Australian Lacrosse Council,

Clive R. Carr

Secretary

44th Annual Report - Statistics

In all cases 1974 figures are shown in brackets.

1. Number of affiliated clubs

<u>S.A.L.A.</u>	<u>V.A.L.A.</u>	<u>W.A.L.A.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
10	18	8	36
(10)	(18)	(8)	(36)

2. Teams entered in Domestic Premiership matches

Open Age	22 (23)	32 (34)	19 (19)	73 (76)
Under Age (16 yrs)	40 (39)	43 (44)	26 (27)	109 (110)
Totals	62 (62)	75 (78)	45 (46)	182 (185)

3. Registered Players

Open Age	352 (360)	554 (498)	248 (299)	1154 (1157)
Under Age	535 (527)	755 (587)	369 (312)	1659 (1426)
Totals	887	1309	617	2813
1974	887	1085	611	2583
1970	717	934	505	2156
1966	611	869	533	2013

4. Number of Playing Grades

Open Age	3	5	3
Under Age	4	5	4

5. Grade Premiers

<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	<u>W. A. L. A.</u>
A. University	A. Williamstown	A. East Fremantle
B. Glenelg	A.Res. Altona	A.Res. Wembley
C. Brighton	B. Malvern	B. Wembley
D. East Torrens	B.Res. Latrobe University	C. Bayswater
E. North Adelaide	U/19 Chadstone	D. Bayswater
F. Burnside	U/16 Malvern	
G. Woodville	U/14/1 Caulfield	
	U/14/2 Altona	
	U/12/1 Caulfield	
	U/12/2 Camberwell Glen Iris	

6. State Association Senior Grade Fairest & Best Player

<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	M. Colquhoun	West Torrens	22 votes
<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	J. Butkiewicz	Williamstown	23 votes
<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	R. Turnbull	Nedlands Subiaco	32 votes

7. State Association Top Goal Scorers - "A" Grade

<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	M. Raggatt	Brighton	106 goals
<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	G. Spicer	Williamstown	106 goals
<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	P. Cann	East Fremantle	100 goals

8. Colts National Championship results

S. Aust	23	d	Victoria	19
W. Aust	13	d	Victoria	11
S. Aust	23	d	W. Aust	20