

A U S T R A L I A N L A C R O S S E C O U N C I L

(Constituted - 8th June 1931)

A N N U A L R E P O R T - S E A S O N 1 9 7 3

To be presented at the 42nd Annual General Meeting of
the Australian Lacrosse Council to be held in Melbourne,
Victoria, on March 22nd and 23rd 1974.

M E M B E R A S S O C I A T I O N S

A U S T R A L I A N L A C R O S S E R E F E R E E S A S S O C I A T I O N

Q U E E N S L A N D L A C R O S S E A S S O C I A T I O N

S O U T H A U S T R A L I A N L A C R O S S E A S S O C I A T I O N

V I C T O R I A N A M A T E U R L A C R O S S E A S S O C I A T I O N

W E S T E R N A U S T R A L I A N L A C R O S S E A S S O C I A T I O N

O F F I C E B E A R E R S 1 9 7 3

<u>P R E S I D E N T</u>	Mr. H. VOLK	(V.A.L.A.)	1973
<u>V I C E P R E S I D E N T S</u>	Mr. F. D. HOGARTH	(V.A.L.A.)	1966
	Mr. H. V. HORNER	(W.A.L.A.)	1966
	Mr. O. C. ISAACHSEN	(S.A.L.A.)	1962
	Mr. L. S. TURNBULL	(W.A.L.A.)	1962
	Mr. I. W. WILES	(S.A.L.A.)	1971
<u>S E C R E T A R Y</u>	Mr. C. R. CARR	(S.A.L.A.)	1971
<u>T R E A S U R E R</u>	Mr. R. D. C. ALEXANDER	(S.A.L.A.)	1967
<u>A U D I T O R</u>	Mr. G. L. DUFFIELD	(S.A.L.A.)	1958
<u>I N T E R N A T I O N A L L I A I S O N O F F I C E R</u>			
	Mr. W. G. HOBBS	(S.A.L.A.)	1972
<u>P U B L I C R E L A T I O N S O F F I C E R</u>			
	Mr. A. F. CHIRON	(V.A.L.A.)	1973
<u>H I S T O R I A N & R E C O R D S S E C R E T A R Y</u>			
	Mr. T. ALLINGTON	(V.A.L.A.)	1973
<u>D E L E G A T E S</u>			
<u>A. L. R. A.</u>	Mr. J. GREGORY		1972
<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. L. S. TURNBULL		1962

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration and approval the 42nd Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council :

1. STATE OF THE GAME

Whilst there can be little doubt that our sport is making progress, there is still a long way to go before we can lay claim to being a strong sport in Australia. The number of open age teams and registered players remains relatively stagnant each year, with practically all of our advances occurring at the Junior level. It is to be hoped that this increase in Junior activity is soon to be reflected into Senior ranks. Surely too, South Australia and Western Australia in particular cannot hope to make real progress whilst the number of affiliated Clubs remains at almost the same level as at 15 years ago. There have been instances of clubs sponsoring junior school teams, but the "parent" seems to be reluctant to cut the strings in due course and let their infant make their own way.

I am able to report that the Canberra project is still alive, but support for Mr. Weatherill is sorely needed if advances are to be made in that area.

On a joyous note I report that a foothold has been established at the College of Advanced Education in Hobart, Tasmania, where two teams will be competing in 1974. We wish Mr. R. Chenoweth every success in this venture.

Attempts at revival have again been made in Sydney but the shortage of willing administrators and coaches has prevented this revival taking place.

2. STATISTICS In all cases 1972 figures are shown in brackets :

3. 1 AFFILIATED CLUBS

<u>S.A.L.A.</u>	<u>V.A.L.A.</u>	<u>W.A.L.A.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
10	19	8	37
(10)	(18)	(8)	36

3. 2 TEAMS ENTERED IN DOMESTIC PREMIERSHIP MATCHES

	<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Open age</u>	22 (23)	32 (33)	18 (19)	72 (75)
<u>Under age</u>	39 (34)	43 (39)	25 (24)	107 (97)
<u>Totals</u>	61 (57)	75 (72)	43 (43)	179 (172)

3. 3 REGISTERED PLAYERS

<u>Open age</u>	339 (320)	483 (476)	284 (268)	1106 (1064)
<u>Under age</u>	465 (455)	623 (570)	342 (323)	1430 (1348)
<u>Totals</u>	804	1106	626	2536
1972	775	1046	591	2412
1970	717	934	505	2156
1966	611	869	533	2013

3. 4 NUMBER OF PLAYING GRADES

<u>Open age</u>	3	5	3
<u>Under age</u>	4	3	4

3. 5 GRADE PREMIERS

	<u>S. A. L. A.</u>		<u>V. A. L. A.</u>		<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	
A.	Brighton		A.1	Williamstown	A.	South Perth
B.	East Torrens		A.2	Malvern	A.Res.	Sayswater
C.	Woodville		A.3	Glenroy	B.	Melville City
D.	Sturt		B.	Chadstone	C.	East Fremantle
E.	East Torrens		C.	Coburg	D.	John Forrest High
F.	West Torrens		E.	Williamstown	E.	Nedlands Subiaco
G.	Mitchell Park		F.	Malvern	F.	Nedlands Subiaco
			G.	Caulfield		

3. 6 STATE ASSOCIATION SENIOR GRADE FIREST & BEST PLAYER

<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	B. E. Bengier	-	Burnside	19 votes	} equal
	W. E. Hobbs	-	University	19 votes	
<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	J. Kelly	-	Malvern	13 votes	
<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	Not submitted				

3. 7 STATE ASSOCIATION TOP GOAL SCORERS - "A" GRADE

<u>S. A. L. A.</u>	M. Raggatt	-	Brighton	144 goals
<u>V. A. L. A.</u>	R. Waite	-	Malvern	128 goals
<u>W. A. L. A.</u>	Not submitted			

4. COLTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Adelaide was the venue for the 1973 Colts Championships which were conducted at the West Park Sports Ground from 24th to 28th July. The weather and ground conditions were quite favorable. For the first time in any Championships at any level, each State won one match and the winner had to be determined by percentage calculation. This resulted in a narrow win to South Australia, with W. A. runners up and Victoria in third place. South Australia provided a second team who gave souns competition for all of their opponents.

The series match results were :

Victoria	16	d	Western Australia	12
W. Australia	16	d	South Australia	13
S. Australia	17	d	Victoria	11

EVAN JONES of South Australia won the Turnbull Trophy for the Fairest & Best player in the Championships, with D. Raines (Victoria) and K. McRae (W. A.) equal runners up.

5. INTERSTATE MATCHES

<u>Synods Cup</u>	South Australia	17	d	Victoria	16
<u>Schulz Cup</u> (under 16)	Victoria	28	d	South Australia	12

6. ISAACHSEN TROPHY - 1973 - FAIREST & BEST PLAYER

The winners for 1973 were B. E. Bengier - Burnside, S. A. 39.6%
and W. E. Hobbs - University, S.A. 39.6%

This is the first time that two players have shared this trophy, and it is worthy of note that Mr. Bengier previously won the Trophy whilst playing with Malvern Club, Victoria, in 1968.

7. A. L. C. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

At the January 1973 meeting of Council the following gentlemen were awarded A. L. C. Certificates of Merit for outstanding services to Lacrosse in Australia :

W. E. DAW	(V. A. L. A.)
L. N. GAUNT	(W. A. L. A.)
R. J. MARSHALL	(W. A. L. A.)

8. World Championships 1974

The past twelve months have seen feverish activity by the VALA who have undertaken the most ambitious project yet in Australian Lacrosse - the hosting and conduct of the 1974 World Championships to be held at the end of June in Melbourne, on behalf of the Australian Lacrosse Council. The occasion of the World Championships also marks the centenary of Lacrosse in Australia.

We will be host to teams from Canada, England and U. S. A. and it is anticipated that there will be observer groups from Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Application was made to the Australian Government for a grant towards the administrative costs of the Championships, and only very recently we have been notified that the sum of \$5000.00 has been awarded. This grant will be of untold assistance and we are grateful to the Australian Government for their interest.

So much has already been done by so many with much more planning to come and it is anticipated that Lacrosse in Australia will receive the greatest boost in the history of the game.

9. COUNCIL MEETINGS

Since the last A. G. M. in January 1973, Council has met in Melbourne during April, Adelaide during July and again in Melbourne during January 1974. This latter meeting was convened to deal solely with World Championship matters. In addition, many members of Council met informally during November in Melbourne, when we were favored with a visit by the Canadian Lacrosse Association Co-ordinator for the World Championships, Mr. Bill Hall. Mr. Hall flew to Australia for a weekend in order that many matters could be dealt with at first hand. For all those concerned it was a most memorable weekend.

10. CONGRATULATIONS are extended to :

B. E. Benger and W. E. Hobbs on winning the Isaachsen trophy for 1973. South Australia, on winning the 1973 Colts Championships.

M. Raggatt (S.A.) and R. Waite (Vic) on again being the top goal scorers in their respective States.

The V. A. L. A., on the formation of a new Junior Club, Mitcham, with 50 players and two teams at the "Under 12" level.

John Forrest High School team (W.A.), parented by Bayswater Club, a new team in 1972, they played without loss in 1973 being minor premiers and then premiers in their grade.

Nollamarra and Bayswater Clubs (W.A.) on the formation of a Northern Districts Junior Lacrosse Council for Sunday mornings activity for lads of all ages who could not play in normal Saturday matches.

11. OBITUARY

The passing of many Lacrosseurs is recorded with the deepest of regrets

Mr. Jack Hodges, Caulfield Club, Victoria, whose history of achievement over a period of 39 years is unsurpassed. Mr. Hodges was not only active with his Club, he was a staunch member of many V. A. L. A. committees, and a manager of many Interstate teams.

Mr. Don Deagon (Williamstown, Coburg and Glenroy Clubs, Victoria), a former Interstate player.

Mr. Murray Haddad (Sturt, S. A.) a former Interstate player.

Mr. John Hansford (East Torrens, S. A.) a former Interstate player who has been selected in Australian teams.

Mr. Trevor Marssen (West Torrens, S. A.), a winner of the S. A. L. A. Fairest & Best Trophy.

12.

GENERAL

Whilst Lacrosse has always been acknowledged as a truly Amateur sport In Australia, such are modern conditions that our approach to our sport must be of a professional nature. Surely the time has come when we must be self critical to the extreme and ask ourselves how we can improve upon our administration at all levels, National, State or Club. We hear far too often that development programmes are hampered through lack of administrators. But I would like to suggest that it is an evident lack of organisation that discourages the volunteers. Whether we agree or not, time is a precious commodity in this era, and those who contribute prefer to obtain good value through their services. They will soon desert us if they find their efforts to be wasteful.

We have now become the recipient of Government Grants, and there will doubtless be more of these as projects come to hand, but these grants will be of no avail if we cannot match them with internal effort.

In previous Annual reports mention has been made of communications, and I regret to report to Council that in many respects there has been little improvement. I have exhausted my methods of improving this situation, and can only hope that consciences will prevail in the end.

Lacrosse has been well served during the past twelve months by our President, and we must pay tribute to him. I have personally found our President to be extremely helpful at all times and his wise counsel has been of considerable benefit to me.

We are all looking forward with anticipation to Season 1974 with so much activity on all scenes. Not only will we have World Championships, but Senior and Junior Championships at the same time. Surely, an absolute feast of Lacrosse.

On behalf of the Australian Lacrosse Council,

Clive R. Carr

Secretary