

Gentlemen.

In presenting to you this report for the season ending on tonight's date your Committee beg leave to congratulate you on the decided advancement of the game in the Colony, more especially in regard to the increase in your numbers, the successful working of two distinct competitions, and the revival of intercolonial contests with South Australia.

A great impetus was given to the Premiership games by the liberal donation of gold medals to the winning team by your President. Eleven clubs entered for the competition, and as there were not sufficient dates to permit of the teams playing each other twice, it was decided at the end of one complete round to drop out the four least successful teams, and these together with two new clubs played a series of matches for a trophy provided by the Association.

The Premiership competition was eventually won by Essendon, who fairly outshone all their opponents and after playing a drawn game with MCC at the beginning of the season, won every subsequent match, scoring in all 77 goals whilst only 10 goals were scored against them: MCC secured second honors and South Melbourne third.

The Flamington team went through the "B" division competition unbeaten scoring 53 goals as against 5 thrown by their opponents.

Appended is a detailed list of both competitions.

With reference to the visit of a Victorian team to Adelaide the most pleasing aspect is certainly the re-establishment of regular intercolonial contests with the sister colony - it being now certain that a South Australian team will return the visit during the coming season.

Although a thoroughly representative team could not be got together to undertake the trip, your committee deemed it advisable with the above object in view, to sanction the visit, as being representative of Victoria, of the players willing to go.

From a playing point of view they were very unsuccessful

and suffered defeat at the hands of Combined South Australia to me, North Adelaide by 6 goals to 5, and University (S.A.) by 8 goals to 6, winning only one game against Combined South Australian by 6 goals to 1.

Your representatives are, however, to be credited with a great stimulus to the game by undertaking the trip; causing interest to be taken in Lacrosse both locally and in Adelaide, having created a much closer link than hitherto between the present lacrosse players of the two colonies.

Your committee are pleased to state that your finances have been carried on almost solely by Club subscriptions, are in an extremely prosperous condition - Your Treasurer having in hand a credit balance of £5-14-6 after paying all liabilities.

The goal net-system was introduced in this colony at the commencement of the season and has proved a pronounced success; therefore be requested at this evening's meeting to endorse a rule framed by the Committee giving effect to same. Your sanction is also required to a resolution regarding the duration of play and the hour for commencing all games, under the auspices of this Association.

The election of President, Vice Presidents, and two members of the Committee forms part of this evening's business. The retiring members of the Committee are Messrs W B George + H M Knight and the following have been nominated for the vacancies: -

M^r Herbert M Knight, M^r Lincoln M Hambleton and M^r Robert L Wingrove

During the season your Assistant Honorary Secretary M^r St Graham resigned his position as he was giving up all active work in the game - the vacancy was not filled.

Your committee have to once more thank the persons who have given prominence to the game, also individual members of the Association who gratuitously furnished information to the same: - And in conclusion express their high appreciation of the excellent work done during the past season by your Hon. Secretary and have to thank him sincerely both for his energy in promoting the interests of the game (and

PREMIERSHIP RECORD to 11th JULY, 1896.

CLUB.	MATCHES.				GOALS.		POINTS.		Per-centage.
	Play'd	Won.	Lost.	Dr'wn	For.	Against.	Possible	Scored.	
Essendon	10	9	—	1	54	7	40	38	95
M.C.C.	10	8	1	1	56	18	40	34	85
South Melbourne	10	7	1	2	41	9	40	32	80
Hawthorn	10	6	3	1	48	22	40	26	65
Caulfield	10	6	3	1	46	24	40	26	65
University	10	5	5	—	45	24	40	20	50
Collingwood	10	5	6	—	27	25	40	20	50
Flemington	10	8	7	—	18	47	40	12	30
Auburn	10	2	8	—	8	62	40	8	20
Brighton	10	1	9	—	15	69	40	4	10
Moonee Ponds	10	—	10	—	6	68	40	—	—

* These Clubs play each other once again for the Premiership.

† These Clubs, together with Glenferrie and Albert Park (six Clubs in all), play each other once, after which the four leading Clubs play each other again for "B" Division Trophy.

"A" Division

Club	Matches			Goals		Points		per-centage
	won	lost	drawn	for	against	possible	scored	
Essendon	15	—	1	77	10	64	62	98
M.C.C.	12	3	1	73	21	64	50	78
South Melbourne	11	3	2	58	15	64	48	75
Hawthorn	10	5	1	69	34	64	42	65
Caulfield	7	7	2	56	33	64	32	50
University	6	10	—	50	64	64	24	37
Collingwood	5	10	1	34	47	64	22	34

"B" Division

Club	Matches				Goals		Points		per-centage
	played	won	lost	drawn	for	against	possible	scored	
Flemington	8	8	—	—	53	5	32	32	100
Auburn	8	4	4	—	11	19	32	16	50
Brighton	8	3	3	2	14	22	32	16	50
Albert Park	8	3	5	—	25	22	32	12	37
Moonee Ponds	5	1	3	1	3	23	20	6	30
Glenferrie	5	—	4	1	2	17	20	2	10

Victorian Lacros

Balance Sheet for Season ending

Receipts

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Balance in hand				1	13	6
Collection at Annual Meeting					12	6
Club Subscriptions						
M.C.C. 21 members	1	1	-			
S. Melbourne 28 "	1	8	-			
Brighton 16 "		16	-			
University 15 "		15	-			
Flemington 15 "		15	-			
Moonee Ponds 15 "		15	-			
Hawthorn 17 "		17	-			
Auburn 15 "		15	-			
Collingwood 15 "		15	-			
Gaulfield 18 "		18	-			
Essendon 15 "		15	-			
Glenferrie 15 "		15	-	10	5	-
Sale of Rules					5	6
Trial goal nets sold to South Melb Club				1	10	-

31st March 1897

		Expenditure					
By		£	s	d	£	s	d
	Trial pair of goal nets				1	10	
	Printing account						
	Programmes + Circulars	1	12	6			
	Programmes, slips &c	2	1	6	3	14	
	Postage				1		
	Telegrams to + from Adelaide						19
	Stationery						3
	Guard book						5
	"B" Division trophy				1		1
	Balance in hand				5	14	6

Audited and found correct.

C. J. Doney.
 Meathesh Auditor
 25-3-97.

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