

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT.

COVERING YEAR 1934.

Mr. President & Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting for your approval the fourth Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council covering the year 1934.

Four meetings of the Council were held during the year, all of which were attended by the President Mr. R. O. Moore and representatives from all the State Associations.

LAWS OF LACROSSE. As you are aware prior to the formation of the Council, many alterations and suggestions to the laws of the game were made at various State Conference, which were held from time to time, but in many instances these suggestions lapsed on account of not being ratified by a majority of the State Associations. During the period under review the Council devoted a considerable amount of its time to the co-ordinating and revising these suggestions with the result that the laws of the game have now been brought up to date and printed together with the Constitution of the Council and are now available for distribution.

BERLIN OLYMPIAD. An invitation to send an Australian Lacrosse Team to compete in the International Lacrosse games which are to be held at Berlin next year in conjunction with the Berlin Olympiad, had unfortunately to be declined on account of the huge financial responsibility an undertaking of this nature would involve.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AMATEUR LACROSSE. During the year the Council decided to link up with the International Federation of Amateur Lacrosse, the other members of which are the English Lacrosse Union the Canadian Association and the United States Inter-Collegiate Lacrosse Association.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held in Berlin during the currency of the lacrosse tournament.

AUSTRALIAN CARNIVAL. In the ordinary course of events the next Australian All States Lacrosse Carnival would have been held in Sydney this year; the New South Wales Lacrosse Association however advised that it would be unable for various reasons to undertake the staging of this event. Queensland was the next State in order but decided that the time was too short to make satisfactory arrangements. It was therefore decided to grant South Australia's request to hold the Carnival in Adelaide next year.

INTERNATIONAL VISIT. Being of the opinion that an International Visit would be beneficial to the game in Australia provided the financial difficulty can be overcome the Council has opened negotiations for a Canadian Lacrosse Visit the basis being that the Canadian Association should be responsible for fares to and from Australia and that all expenses incurred in Australia be borne by the Council. The negotiations are not sufficiently advanced as yet to make any forecast of the likelihood of a visit.

FINANCIAL It is pleasing to report that the finances of the Council are in a healthy state, the credit balance at the bank stands at £33.11.-

THANKS TO DONOR. The best thanks of the Council are due to Mr. R.O. Moore, for a donation to the Council's Fund.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS. Five members of the visiting English Ladies Cricket Team were prominent members of the English Ladies Lacrosse Association. Unfortunately owing to the limited time at their disposal in Melbourne it was impossible to arrange an official welcome by lacrosseurs. During the progress of the Test Match in Melbourne I took the opportunity of making Miss Carol Valentine acquaintance and conveyed to her the hearty greetings of the Australian Council

STATE OF GAME. I desire to call the Council's attention to the alarming state of the games throughout Australia. I have compiled several tables setting out the number of registered players and

and teams in the years 1929 and 1934 and from a study of these tables it will be seen that the game has lost 15.20 % of its players since 1929. In Queensland, and New South Wales the loss is more than alarming it is deplorable, the former State has lost no less than 71.06 % of its players and the latter 67.70 % in Victoria numerically the stronghold of the game, the drift is 5.54%. On the other hand it is pleasing to note that South Australia has more than held its own during the period under review, the advance being 11.84 % while in Western Australia a slight improvement of 4.05% is recorded. Obviously this state of affairs cannot be allowed to continue and having ventilated the matter I feel sure that the State Associations will take immediate steps to stop the drift and build up and place the game on a sounder footing.

It is difficult to understand why lacrosse is not making ^{way} a heading especially when kindred winter sport such as hockey baseball and Rugby are all showing wonderful improvement, in several instances some of these bodies have increased their playing strength by 300 and 400 %.

I feel confident that no lacrosseur will admit that any of these kindred games are superior, or hold greater attractions than his own game and having considered this point it rests with each individual player, club and Association to work and build up lacrosse to its former high position in winter sports.

I submit the following suggestions for the earnest consideration of all State Associations.

- (1) That the objective for 1936 be a twenty percent increase of teams in each State.
- (2) That an immediate drive be commenced for New Members.
- (3) That Associations strictly enforce all rules in regard to equipment and regulations *i.e.* teams to appear in correct uniform punctual starting of matches white balls to be provided. Goal posts to be painted white etc. It is these small attention to details that serve to make matches more enjoyable to players and

more attractive to spectators.

- (4) That all Associations take immediate steps to stop this alarming drift by calling their club representatives together and placing these facts before them. Do not wait until next year before making a start the matter is far too serious for delay. Do not hesitate to ask
- (5) old players to assist in reviving the game wherever possible.
- (5) That an endeavour be made to form Amateur Referee's and Old Players Associations in those States which have not the benefit of this important adjunct to the game. Associations of this nature serve a two fold purpose by supplying Amateur Referees and retaining the interest of the man who has just finished his playing days and secondly by giving to the older player a meeting place where he can continue his interest in Lacrosse. By this means it should be possible to keep in touch with every man that has played the game. The value of such an Association is obvious.
- (6) It is also suggested that all State Associations endeavour to obtain greater publicity in the daily press, I fully realise the difficulties that confronts us in this respect but when one makes a comparison, in almost any daily paper in the Commonwealth the space given to kindred winter sports and that devoted to lacrosse is definitely not receiving that support from the daily press that it should. Why is this? for one reason I venture to suggest that the press is well aware that Lacrosse is not as progressive as other games and consequently treats it accordingly.

In many suburbs throughout Australia there are many local papers delivered into the house hold gratis, there should be no difficulty in getting space in these

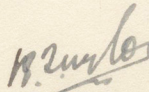
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publications even if it only deals with the local club, it is publicity and I think well worth the effort.

In the matter of press publicity we must be up and doing.

In conclusion, from unofficial advises I understand that both Queensland and Victoria are making a determined effort to introduce the game into the Schools, this is very gratifying and I feel confident that if all State Associations take immediate steps to grapple with this problem lacrosse next year will show that improvement which we all so earnestly desire.

Yours faithfully,



Hon. Secretary.

31 st May 1935.

TABLE A.

REGISTERED PLAYERS.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Q'sld.</u>	<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Vict.</u>	<u>S.A.</u>	<u>W.A.</u>	<u>C/wlth.</u>
1929	318	180	1100	380	296	2,274
1933	165	144	1068	390	327	2,094
1934	90	58	1039	425	308	1,920
-+--	-71.06	-67.70	-5.54	11.84	4.05	-15.20

-+-- % Loss or Gain over period 1929 -34.
 Loss in Red Gain in Black.

TABLE B.

	<u>Q'sld</u>	<u>NUMBER OF TEAMS.</u>				<u>C/wlth.</u>
		<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Vict.</u>	<u>S.A.</u>	<u>W.A.</u>	
<u>A Section</u>						
1929	5	4	10	7	6	32
1933	5	4	9	7	10	35
1934	6	4	9	7	11	37
<u>B. Section</u>						
1929	8	8	11	8	8	43
1933	6	6	10	8	6	36
1934	-	-	9	10	6	25
<u>C. Section</u>						
1929	4	-	10	9	4	27
1933	-	-	12	7	4	23
1934	-	-	12	6	4	22
<u>D. Section</u>						
1929	-	-	12	-	-	12
1933	-	-	8	5	-	13
1934	-	-	9	6	-	15
<u>E. Section</u>						
1929	-	-	12	-	-	12
1933	-	-	13	-	-	13
1934	-	-	13	-	-	13
<u>F. Section</u>						
1929	-	-	8	-	-	8
1933	-	-	10	-	-	10
1934	-	-	8	-	-	8

30
12
29
15

31/5/35

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING

31st. MARCH 1936.

RECEIPTS

To Cash in Bank	16.12.0	By Subscription I.F.A.L.	2.10.0
Interest	13 11	Typing	1 1.0
Donation R.O. Moore Esq.,	1. 1. 0	Postage Etc.	2.4.11
		Cash In Bank	33 11 0

FEES.

W.A. Lacrosse Assoc.	4. 4. 0
Victorian "	4. 4. 0
South Austr.	4. 4. 0
Queensland "	4. 4. 0
N.S. Wales "	4. 4. 0

£39 6 11

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AUDITED AND FOUND CORRECT.

(Signed) D.R. MARSHALL

29th MARCH 1935

G.J. FLOOD

HON. TREASURER.