

- VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION -

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A N N U A L            R E P O R T

SEASON    1956

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VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Amateur Sports Club  
McEwan House  
343 Little Collins St.  
MELBOURNE

Annual Report, Statement of Income and Expenditure  
and Balance Sheet for 1956 to be presented at the  
Annual Meeting of the Association to be held at the  
above address on:

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O F F I C I A L S

Patron: Rt. Hon. Sir John G. Latham G.C.M.G.

President: Mr. R. Coldstream

Immediate Past President: Mr. H. R. Balmer

Vice Presidents:

Mr. H. Volk ✓	Mr. Geo. Smith ✓
Mr. E. Selth ✓	Mr. H. Wood ✓
Mr. J. M. Dobbie ✓	Mr. W. F. Mullen ✓
Mr. P. Shappere ✓	Mr. W. Donald ✓
<del>Mr. J. G. McNeilage</del>	<del>Mr. G. Reid</del>
Mr. T. W. Corrigan ✓	Mr. L. Kershaw ✓

Life Members:

Mr. W. J. Lampard	Mr. E. L. McIntyre
Mr. H. R. Balmer	Mr. A. E. G. Webb
Mr. G. Flood	Mr. J. L. Beattie
Mr. T. L. Fulton	Mr. I. J. Taylor.

Chairman of Committee:	Mr. J. E. Taylor
Hon. Record Secretary:	Mr. R. H. Proctor
Hon. Assistant Secretary:	Mr. R. M. Ponton
Hon. Auditor:	Mr. O. G. Unkenstein
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. W. K. Tickner
Hon. Secretary:	Mr. F. J. G. Graf

## VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Gentlemen,

Your Committee has pleasure in presenting for your consideration this the 78th Annual Report, Statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for Season 1956.

It is noteworthy that the decline in numbers of senior players continues. The juniors, however, are still increasing and it would appear that we are passing a transitional period. A note of warning is issued here however that every effort must be applied to retain those juniors now entering into the game.

Full details of membership, numbers of Clubs and players and match results are contained in the Honorary Record Secretary's Report which is attached.

Management of the Association by your Executive continued to function smoothly although it is felt that the success of the various committees would be materially assisted if these were run and organised by younger enthusiasts.

### Best and Fairest Player

The Vince Healey Memorial Cup for 1956 was won by Keith Atkins, goalkeeper for Malvern Red. This was a most worthy performance as Keith was playing his first year in goals. He had a close tussle with another goalkeeper, Roy Dickson of Surrey Park and the result was in doubt until the final home and home match. Congratulations to both Keith and Roy and to Malvern Club in once again providing this season's best and fairest player.

### Interstate Visits

This was Carnival year, and what a year! After many difficulties had been encountered in finally getting away the best available team, the critics were confounded when the team which was considered to be one of the weakest ever to have been sent interstate, actually brought home the Garland McHaig Cup.

The team was:

Goal: Max Kinderman (Caulfield)

Backs: Roy Sloggett (Malvern), Allan Picton (Caulfield)  
Ian Jewett (Williamstown) Doug Imlach (Caulfield)

Wing Defences: John Heathcote (Capt. MHSOB),  
Don Stapleton (Coburg)

Centres: Noel Jeffrey (V. Capt. Malvern)  
Stan Jessup (MHSOB)

Attacks: Don Orr (Williamstown) Dennis Trainor  
(Caulfield) Don Deagon (Williamstown)

Forwards: Alan Woodbridge (Caulfield) Ian Mountford  
(Malvern) Trevor Campbell (Malvern)

These players are to be heartily congratulated on a magnificent performance. The following players, by virtue of their excellent showing, gained selection in the All-Australian Team selected at the Carnival:- John Heathcote, Noel Jeffrey, Ian Mountford, Max Kinderman, Roy Sloggett and Trevor Campbell.

Our thanks must go to Ern Selth who did a colossal job as team manager. He was ably supported by several assistants who made the trip at their own expense.

Plaudits for this team would be incomplete without praising the efforts of Alf Evans as Coach. To him and to Mr. J. L. Patching as P. T. Instructor, go our very sincerest thanks for all the time and effort which they put into the job.

The team spirit developed on the trip to Perth was materially assisted by the hospitality provided by the Western Australian Association, and our sincerest thanks must go to the W.A.L.A. The Perth trip is one which we will always look forward to, win or lose.

Mention must also be made of our opponents, both W.A. and S.A. We trust they can forgive us for trying so hard to retain the Garland McHaig Cup.

Juniors: Early in September, the under 16 boys completed a happy year for Victoria in narrowly defeating South Australia 18-16 in Adelaide. The team was:-

Goal: B. Wilkinson (Williamstown)

Backs: K. Hope, C. Hill (Williamstown) M. Owen  
(Malvern) W. Beggs (Malvern)

W.Defences: T. Henston (Coburg) K. Ferguson (Caulfield)

Center: V. Beames (Capt. Malvern)

Attacks: H. Orr (Williamstown) B. Gunn (Caulfield)  
D. McDonald (Malvern)

Forwards: P. Brotheridge (Williamstown) R. Ford (CGI)  
J. Morrish (Williamstown)

This was an excellent match, the Victorians just lasting long enough with better physical condition. The standard of play both tactical and stickwork was as high as has been seen in these matches.

Phil. Shappere once again is to be thanked for the fatherly manner in which he handles these boys. It contributes materially to their success.

Some measure of the team's success must also go to the coach, Fred Graf.

Finance:

Faced with a year of heavy expenditure in financing a Carnival Team to Perth and a Junior Team to Adelaide, strenuous efforts were made to raise money.

A Barbecue arranged at the property of Mr. Hugh Wood in February was marred by shocking weather and resulted in a small ~~loss~~ <sup>profit</sup>, despite the support of many who braved the elements. Our thanks go to Hughie for all the facilities he provided.

Another venture in which nearly every senior member of the Association participated, viz. the Monster Special Effort with a Holden Car as the prize, resulted in a nett profit to the Association of £1190. This amount will place your Association on a much firmer footing and provided some similar effort,

possibly on a smaller scale, can be organised each year, we need have no further financial worries.

The driving force behind this Monster Special Effort has been Mr. Noel Jeffrey and your Committee feels that a mere commendation in this report would be a totally inadequate gesture to Noel for the energy and application which he so successfully put into this venture.

Several Clubs were materially assisted by the Association in the purchase of sticks, for, despite a subsidy of £2 per stick provided for 97 sticks to various clubs, at least three Clubs had difficulty in meeting their commitments to the Association.

The supply of sticks through the Association has proved to be a severe strain on our finances and it has been decided to provide for the merchandising of sticks through normal channels of sports stores.

#### Sticks:

Although the shape and weight of Brady Hickory sticks is still open to improvement, breakages have been reduced to a minimum and the stick problem now seems to have solved itself.

A newly developed laminated stick proved unsuccessful in the developmental stages, however, by the introduction of several improvements, a satisfactory design and shape has now been evolved which should provide a stick equal in quality to the pre-war Lally's "Extra-Special". These also will be available through sports stores.

#### SOCIAL

Mention has already been made of the Barbecue. The only other social function was the Annual Smoke and Presentation Night. Despite the success of this function last year, the attendance was most disappointing and your Committee could not recommend continuance of this function unless it receives better support.

Together with all other Amateur Sporting bodies, your Association was invited to provide one member to participate in the Olympic Torch Relay. Our interstate captain John Heathcote was accorded this honour.

The annual Queen's Birthday Gymkhana suffered also from lack of interest from senior players. A series of matches for under age players was held in order that the interest in this spectacular event should not completely die out.

One of the most encouraging signs of the return to popularity of our game was the mid-week competitions. Two separate series under the Associations auspices were held in four High Schools and five Technical Schools competed. Williamstown won the High Schools and Swinburne the Technical Schools competitions. Both are to be heartily congratulated as it was first time up for each of them.

#### Committee Meetings:

Four General Committee Meetings were held during the year at which respectively 25, 20, 23, and 18 members and delegates were present.

The Executive Committee met on twelve occasions, attendances were as follows:-

I. J. Taylor (Chairman)	5
P. Shappere	10
J. M. Dobbie	8
E. Selth	12
H. Volk	7
G. Tillotson	8
A. L. Evans	2
K. Buchanan	9
W. K. Tickner (Hon. Treas)	9
R. M. Ponton (Hon. Asst. Sec)	12
F. J. Graf (Hon. Sec)	11

(G. Tillotson replaced A. L. Evans on the latter's resignation)

Donations:

A few small donations were received and to these supporters we express our sincere thanks for their continued interest. There are however, many others whose support we would relish.

Referees:

The problem of referees now appears to be the only serious hurdle in our progress yet to be overcome. The apathy with which many senior players regard this chore must be criticised in the strongest terms.

Many times senior players are required to referee junior and lower grade matches because former players cannot be found to do so. This arduous task is not always tackled with relish and the result is a match which nobody enjoys. It is surely the senior players' responsibility when umpiring to see that other players get as much enjoyment from the game as he would expect himself.

There are however a small number of senior players who do tackle their job with enthusiasm and it is pleasing to read the complimentary remarks made by Captains about them in their match reports. It is also encouraging to your Committee to read some of the comments and criticisms by these referees. It is of interest to quote the following from Referees' reports of Under 16 matches:-

1. "A good even game but the players are inclined to be over-vigorous. It is suggested that this Club be asked to teach their players to treat their lacrosse racquets as racquets, not axes, when checking".
2. "If more interest was taken in this team, they would do much better".
3. "Apparently seniors not interested in this team. Morale of team not high, interest of at least one senior player would work wonders".

Your Committee desires to record its great appreciation of those men who gave of their best in regularly turning out when they were required. In particular Messrs. Fred Durham Alec Donald and Charlie Middleton are to be sincerely thanked for their co-operation. We look forward to their continued assistance.

It is proposed to form an Amateur Referees Association which will organise and train referees to a uniform standard. Details of this Association will be announced before the commencement of next season.

### CONCLUSION

The season has ended on a bright note. Finances are sound, prospects for juniors are good and provided matches can be made enjoyable with good refereeing, the new season can be approached with an optimistic outlook.

Your Committee has already announced the formation of a fund of £500 for the promotion of new Clubs. So with the lead provided by the M.C.C. and Williamstown Clubs with their junior team activities, let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and make 1957 season a good one.

In conclusion we must record the return to good health by your Executive Chairman, Mr. I. J. Taylor. Ike became very ill in June and was most disappointed when he was unable to visit Perth with the Carnival Team. He is now almost completely recovered and should soon again be able to provide us with his advice and guidance. Best of luck, Ike!

Others who suffered illnesses during the year and to whom we extend our best wishes are Hon. Treasurer, Bill Tickner, Eddie Taylor and President Bob Coldstream.

**Obituary:** It is with regret that we record the untimely passing in a car smash of Alan Curry, a young and popular member of Caulfield Club, who it may be recalled was a member of the 1952 Junior Victorian team.

A word of appreciation must go to your President, Mr. Bob Coldstream. Because he is a silent worker, few of you realise just how much your Association owes to him. Many thanks Bob.

For, and on behalf of the Committee,

F. J. GRAF

Honorary Secretary

VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Hon. Record Secretary's Report for Season 1956

Gentlemen,

This report is set out in a fashion similar to that of last season in order that there may be obtained some idea of the progress of the Association during the year under review.

Details of the numerical strength of clubs is as follows:-

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Clubs	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
Teams			
Open age	18	19	20
Under age	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
	<u>35</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>
Registered Players			
Open age	306	319	370
Under age	<u>229</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>166</u>
	<u>535</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>536</u>

	<u>TEAMS</u>				<u>PLAYERS</u>					
	<u>A.</u>	<u>B.</u>	<u>U/16</u>	<u>U/14</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>O/age</u>	<u>U/age</u>	<u>Total</u>	
					<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>			<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Camberwell- Glen Iris	-	1	1	1	3	3	17	20	37	44
Caulfield	1	2	1	2	6	7	51	39	90	110
Coburg	1	-	1	-	2	1	18	14	32	22
Malvern	2	2	1	2	7	7	60	44	104	103
M.C.C.	1	-	1	1	3	2	17	27	44	39
M.H.S.O.B.	1	1	-	-	2	2	32	-	32	32
Surrey Park	1	1	1	1	4	4	31	29	60	70
University	1	1	-	-	2	2	32	-	32	29
Williamstown	1	1	2	2	6	4	48	56	104	64
	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>306</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>513</u>

The same clubs which took part in the 1955 competitions again fielded teams in the 1956 season and fourteen players from U.H.S.O.B. - disbanded at the end of 1954 - were playing with some regularity. The last time no club was lost to the Association was between the 1950 and 1951 seasons.

The slow downward trend in the number of teams taking part in the open age sections continued but the junior grades showed a net increase of three after taking into account the amalgamation of the Camberwell-Glen Iris and Surrey Park Under 16 sides late in the season.

Registrations showed the same trends as with teams. A drop of 13 in open age players was more than offset by an increase of 35 amongst the juniors helped mainly by a substantial influx to the Williamstown Club. Of the other clubs only Caulfield, with a marked loss, showed no gain in under age players.



As was indicated in last season's report the total number of re registrations is apt to cause a misleading impression of the strength of the game in the State. The summary below gives the division between those who played regularly and those who did not do so.

	O/age	U/age	Total	
			1956	1955
Played regularly (i.e. at least half the possible games)	193	176	369	368
Played irregularly	59	48	107	110
Registered but did not play	54	5	59	35
	<u>306</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>513</u>

The tentative arrangements made in 1955 to operate a promotion and relegation system in the open age grades were not carried forward and these sections were reduced from three to two.

The final competition results were:-

<u>'A' Section</u>	P.	W.	L.	D.	Bye.	Pts.	Goals		%
							F.	A.	
Malvern 'Black'	16	16	-	-	2	72	280	67	417.9
M.H.S.O.B.	16	13	3	-	2	60	237	99	191.9
Williamstown	16	10	5	1	2	50	152	160	95.0
Caulfield	16	9	6	1	2	46	221	144	153.5
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Coburg	16	9	7	-	2	44	190	178	106.7
M.C.C.	16	6	9	1	2	34	157	203	77.3
Malvern 'Red'	16	3	12	1	2	22	95	189	50.3
Surrey Park	16	3	13	-	2	20	73	177	41.2
University	16	1	15	-	2	12	92	280	32.9

Semi-finals

Malvern 'Black' 13 M.H.S.O.B. 9  
Williamstown 14 Caulfield 15

Preliminary Final

M.H.S.O.B. 12 Caulfield 8

Grand Final

Malvern 'Black' 9 M.H.S.O.B. 6

Premiers and Champions - Malvern 'Black'

Changes from 1955 Season

Transferred from 'Minor A' Section:-  
Coburg, M.C.C. and University

Leading Goal Scorers

'B' Section

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Walk-over			Pts.	Goals		%
					Recd.	Gvn.	Bye		F.	A.	
Caulfield 'Gold'	17	14	-	-	3	-	1	72	254	74	343.2
Camberwell-Glen Iris	16	10	4	1	1	-	2	54	226	132	171.2
Malvern 'Black'	16	8	4	2	2	-	2	52	135	132	102.3
Surrey Park	17	8	6	-	2	1	1	44	152	128	118.7
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Williamstown	15	7	7	1	-	-	3	42	158	134	117.9
M.H.S.O.B.	17	5	11	-	1	-	1	28	124	171	72.5
Caulfield 'Green'	17	5	12	-	-	-	1	24	109	195	55.9
University	16	-	10	-	1	5	2	12	36	165	21.8
Malvern 'Red'	9	1	4	-	-	4	1	8	30	93	32.3
(withdrew 19.6.56)											

Semi-finals

Caulfield 'Gold'	18	Camberwell-Glen Iris	7
Malvern 'Black'	9	Surrey Park	8

Preliminary Final

Camberwell-Glen Iris	10	Malvern 'Black'	11
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Grand Final

Caulfield 'Gold'	17	Malvern 'Black'	3
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Premiers and Champions - Caulfield 'Gold'

Changes from 1955 Season

Transferred from Minor A Section:-

Camberwell-Glen Iris, Caulfield 'Gold' and Malvern 'Black'

Not re-entered in B Section

Camberwell-Glen Iris

Leading Goal Scorers

Under 16 Section

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Walk-over			Pts.	Goals		%
					Recd.	Gvn.	Bye		F.	A.	
Williamstown 'Gold'	17	13	1	-	3	-	1	68	213	59	361.0
Malvern	17	10	4	-	3	-	1	56	178	90	197.8
Williamstown 'Blue'	17	10	5	1	1	-	1	50	225	169	133.1
Caulfield*	17	6	7	1	3	-	1	42	151	132	114.4
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Camberwell-Glen Iris	16	3	5	2	-	6	1	20	137	150	91.3
M.C.C.	16	3	12	-	-	1	1	16	102	253	40.3
Coburg	11	2	7	1	1	-	-	14	87	122	71.3
(entered 2.6.56)											
Surrey Park	15	2	8	1	-	4	1	14	57	174	32.8

NOTE - One match - M.C.C. v Surrey Park - not played

- Camberwell-Glen Iris and Surrey Park amalgamated as from 7th July 1956 and due allowance has been made for this in the compilation of the final table

Semi-finals

Williamstown 'Gold' 12 Malvern 8  
 Williamstown 'Blue' 18 Caulfield 7

Preliminary Final

Malvern 8 Williamstown 'Blue' 11

Grand Final

Williamstown 'Gold' 13 Williamstown 'Blue' 10

Premiers - Williamstown 'Blue'

Changes from 1955 Season

New Teams -

Camberwell-Glen Iris, Coburg, M.C.C., Williamstown 'Gold'

Team not re-entered -

Caulfield 'Gold'

Leading Goal Scorers

Under 14 Section

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Walk-over			Pts.	Goals		%
					Recd.	Gvn.	Bye		F.	A.	
Malvern 'Black'	12	12	1	-	1	-	2	60	172	26	661.5
Williamstown 'Blue'	15	11	1	-	3	-	1	60	129	21	614.3
Surrey Park	14	9	5	-	-	-	2	44	142	55	258.2
M.C.C.	15	9	6	-	1	-	1	40	136	95	143.2
Caulfield 'Green'	14	5	6	-	1	2	2	32	90	105	85.7
Camberwell-Glen Iris	14	3	9	-	2	-	2	28	60	150	40.0
Williamstown 'Gold'	14	3	10	1	-	-	2	22	68	108	63.0
Malvern 'Red'	14	2	9	1	-	2	2	18	26	153	17.0
Caulfield 'Gold'	14	2	9	-	-	3	2	16	30	143	21.0

Matches of 12th May cancelled by Weather Committee

Semi-finals

Malvern 'Black' 5 Williamstown 'Blue' 3  
 Surrey Park 11 M.C.C. 7

Preliminary Final

Williamstown 'Blue' 7 Surrey Park 6  
 (after extra time)

Grand Final

Malvern 'Black' 5 Williamstown 'Blue' 4

Premiers - Malvern 'Black'

Changes from 1955 Season

New Team -

Williamstown 'Gold'

Leading Goal Scorers

Mid-Week Schools Competition

There were separate competitions for High Schools and Technical Schools

High Schools

Teams - Box Hill, Melbourne, University, Williamstown

Final

University High School 10 Williamstown High  
School 12

Premiers - Williamstown High School

Technical Schools

Teams - Caulfield, Coburg, Oakleigh, Swinburne, Williamstown

Final

Caulfield Technical School 4 Swinburne Technical  
School 5

Premiers - Swinburne Technical School

New Teams for 1956 Season -  
Coburg, Oakleigh, Williamstown

Queen's Birthday Junior Six-a-Side Competition

Under 16 Section

Final - Williamstown 'Blue' 3 Caulfield 1

Under 14 Section

Final - Malvern 'Black' 5 Surrey Park 2

Inter-State Matches

Senior Carnival (for Garland McHarg Cup)

South Australia	21	Western Australia	8
Victoria	13	South Australia	11
		(for Bob Symonds Cup)	
Victoria	6	Western Australia	5

Winners - Victoria

Junior (for Carl Schultz Cup)

South Australia 16 Victoria 18

Best and Fairest Player (for Vince Healey Memorial Trophy)

K. Atkins - Malvern 'Red'

VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet as at 31st October, 1956

Liabilities

<u>Sundry Creditors</u>		
Clubs in Credit	15. 0. 0	
Others	<u>963.14.10</u>	978.14.10
 <u>Stick Loan Account</u>	162.10. 0	
 <u>Junior Lacrosse Fund</u>	56. 7. 1	218.17. 1
 <u>Accumulated Funds</u>		
Balance 1.11.1955	124. 0.10	
<u>Less Loss for year</u>	<u>97. 5.11</u>	26.14.11
		 <u><u>£1224. 6.10</u></u>

Assets

			Cash at ANZ Savings Bank 937-15-10
<u>Cash in Hand</u>		233. 0. 2	} 1617-8-6
<u>Cash in Banks</u>			
Commonwealth Svgs. Bk.	24.16. 0		
State Savings Bank	21.12. 7		
A.N.Z. " "	134. 5. 0		
English Scottish & Australian Bank Ltd.	<u>265.18.11</u>	446.12. 6	
<u>Sundry Debtors (Clubs)</u>		238. 7.10	
<u>Commonwealth Bonds</u>			
3 1/4% due 15.9.1961		20. 0. 0	
<u>Stock on Hand</u>		281. 5. 6	
<u>Stock from Preston for Junior Lacrosse</u>		5. 0.10	
		<u><u>£1224. 6.10</u></u>	

N.B. In addition to the above there is an amount of £937/15/10 standing to the credit of the Association's Account with the A.N.Z. Savings Bank.

Audited and found correct.

(Sgd.) O.G. Unkenstein, Chartered Accountant (Aust.) Hon. Auditor

(Sgd.) W.K. Tickner, Dip.Com., Hon. Treasurer.

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