



576

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

Annual Report Year ending 31st March, 1936

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, 29th MAY, 1936.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—

I have much pleasure in presenting for your approval the Fifth Annual Report of the Australian Lacrosse Council covering the year 1935.

Since our last meeting the Empire has suffered a severe loss in the passing of our late beloved Sovereign His Majesty King George V. On behalf of the Council a letter of condolence and loyal greetings to His Majesty King Edward VIII. was forwarded through the Governor-General. A copy of this letter and Lord Wigram's reply is given herewith.

Melbourne,
25th January, 1936.

His Excellency Lord Gowrie, V.C.,
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia,
CANBERRA.

Your Excellency,—

By direction of the Australian Lacrosse Council we have the honour to tender through Your Excellency, as the representative of the Crown, the heartfelt sympathy and condolence of our members with His Majesty the King, Queen Mary and the members of the Royal Family on the occasion of the demise of our late beloved Sovereign His Majesty King George V.

We also respectfully tender the loyal greetings of our members to His Majesty King Edward VIII., whose reign, we pray, will be long and blessed with peace.

We have the honour to remain on behalf of the Australian Lacrosse Council,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient Servants,
R. O. MOORE, President.
I. J. TAYLOR, Hon. Secretary.

Buckingham Palace,
21st February, 1936.

Dear Sir,—

I am commanded to convey to the Members of the Australian Lacrosse Council the sincere and heartfelt thanks of the King, Queen Mary and the Members of the Royal Family for the kind messages of sympathy in their great loss, contained in your letter of January 26th.

His Majesty appreciates deeply the loyal assurances which accompany this letter.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) WIGRAM.

The President,
Australian Lacrosse Council,
MELBOURNE.

INTERNATIONAL LACROSSE.—There is nothing of importance so far as affects Australia to report under this heading. I have been in communication with the controlling bodies of America, Canada and England, copies of these letters having been duly circulated. Certain interests in America are still very anxious to send a team to Australia; finance, however, is the stumbling block, which at present cannot be surmounted.

The only international games to be played during the year was a series of three matches staged in British Columbia between America and Canada, for the Lally Cup. It is interesting to note that the series was played under Box Lacrosse rules, Canada winning the three games.

BERLIN OLYMPIAD.—Advice has been received from the International Federation of Amateur Lacrosse that the Berlin Olympiad authorities decided that the Olympic programme must be curtailed, and that lacrosse would have to be omitted. Although Australia was not in a position to be represented at this great gathering, I feel sure I am expressing the regret of all lovers of the game in the Commonwealth that the International Olympic Committee has decided that lacrosse must be eliminated.

As lacrosse was staged in the Amsterdam Olympiad in 1928 and Los Angeles in 1932, and considering that three countries—America, Canada and England—were prepared to send teams to Berlin this year, the International Olympic Committee's action is both regrettable and difficult to understand.

INTERSTATE MATCHES.—It is pleasing to record that a far greater number of interstate matches were played during the year than is the usual custom. The Victorian Association sent strong teams to Perth, Adelaide and Sydney; while at the close of the season a junior side visited Launceston. A South Australian B Grade Team visited Ballarat.

These visits are very beneficial, especially to isolated States, and the best thanks of the Council are due to both the Victorian and South Australian Associations for undertaking these important duties.

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE CARNIVAL.—The All-States Lacrosse Carnival will be held in Adelaide on August 8th-15th, and present indications are that all the States, with the exception of New South Wales, will be represented. Even at this late date it is to be hoped that means will be found to enable the Mother State to send a team.

LACROSSE IN TASMANIA.—Although I have written to the Secretary of the Northern Tasmanian Lacrosse Association for information regarding the game on the Island, I have had no reply. From unofficial sources, however, I understand the game is making steady progress.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE.—It is noted with pleasure that successful efforts have been inaugurated to introduce Women's Lacrosse into Victoria. A Women's Lacrosse Association has been formed, and matches will be played this year.

LAWS OF LACROSSE.—Last year the Council revised the Laws of Lacrosse. The Constitution of the Council and Laws of Lacrosse have been printed and distributed to the State Associations, at a very low cost. The Council has still a supply of these and as it is very improbable that another edition will be printed for some years, State Associations are advised to make early application while supplies are available.

TARIFF REDUCTION.—It is recorded with pleasure that there has been a slight reduction in duty on lacrosse sticks. This happy state of affairs can be attributed to the effort of the Council in pressing for a reduction in duty over the past few years.

FINANCIAL.—The finances of the Council are in a healthy condition. The Balance Sheet reveals a credit balance at the Bank of £30/7/8, while the assets of the Council are set down at £42/7/8.

OBITUARY.—It is with deep regret that we record the passing of the late Mr. Joel Fox, for many years President of the Victorian Lacross Association. Mr. Fox was one of the founders of the game in Australia, his association with lacrosse dating back to 1876.

The South Australian Association also suffered a severe loss by the death of Mr. W. A. C. Stubbs, who was well known throughout the Commonwealth.

To their sorrowing families we extend our sympathy.

STATE OF GAME.—In my report last year I pointed out the serious state of the game throughout Australia, and made several suggestions for the consideration of all State Associations. A perusal of the tables given herewith unfortunately confirms the alarming state of affairs to which I have called attention. Although the figures indicate a decrease in number of players in every state with the exception of New South Wales, I have reason to believe that steps have been taken by all Associations to offset this serious loss of players, and that this year a decided improvement should be shown.

It is pleasing to record that the Queensland Association has been successful in introducing the game into the Brisbane Schools, ten teams being formed last year. In Western Australia the game has been resuscitated in Kalgoorlie. The Eastern Goldfields Lacrosse Association has been formed and application made to the parent body for affiliation. This is very gratifying, as Kalgoorlie in pre-war days was one of the strongholds of the game.

In the provincial cities of Ballarat (Victoria), and Port Pirie (South Australia), the game continues to flourish, there being six teams in the former Association and three in the latter.

The weakness in Junior teams in all States, with the exception of Victoria and, in a lesser degree, South Australia, is apparent by a study of the tables referred to above. For the game to progress a very determined effort must be made to remedy this state of affairs, and the Associations are urged to give this matter their very serious consideration.

In the past the high cost of material has certainly been a drawback; this, however, is being gradually overcome. A proposition regarding Youth Sticks will be submitted to the Council for its consideration at tonight's meeting. If the idea is approved it may be possible to obtain a parcel of these much needed sticks at a very attractive figure and enable a big drive to be made this year for additional Junior Teams in readiness for 1937.

In conclusion, I earnestly exhort the Associations to carefully study and where practicable put into operation the suggestions made in the last Annual Report. I feel sure that if a determined effort is made this year lacrosse in a very short time will again occupy the proud position it did a few years ago.

Yours faithfully,

I. J. TAYLOR,

Hon. Secretary, A.L.C.



THE AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE COUNCIL

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for Year Ending 31st March 1936.

To Receipts		11- By Expenditure	
Cash in Bank 31/3/35	33	11-0	Printing of Laws of Lacrosse 20-8-
Interest		11-11	Freight prepaid to W.A. 7-6
Fees			Typing 1-1-0
South Australia	2-2-		Printing 1-16-6
New South Wales	2-2-		Stationery Postage etc. 2 - -
Western Australia	2-2-		Cash in Bank 31/3/36 30 7 8
Victoria	2-2-		
Queensland	2-2-	10-10-0	
Sales Laws of Lacrosse	11	- 3	
Freight refund from W.A.		7-6	
	256	- 8	£56 - 8

BALANCE SHEET

Liabilities	-	-	Assets	
Liabilities Nil	-	-	Laws of Lacrosse on hand	12 - 0-0
Balance of Assets over Liabilities	42	7 8	Cash at C/wlth Bank	30- 7 8
	£42	7 8		£ 42 - 7-8

Audited and found correct