

**TUHA Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 11th August 2010
THAC – 8pm**

Minutes

Meeting commenced 19:45

Attendance

Name	Present	Apology
Craig Proctor (President)	X	
Simon Talbot (Vice President)	X	
Colin Hepher (Treasurer)	X	
Glenn Wickham (Secretary/Public Officer)	X	
Marty Jack (Chief Referee)	X	
Pieter Van Der Woude (Equipment Officer)	X	
Jeremy Crawford (Development Officer)	X	
Garry Davidson (Media Officer)	X	
Ian Shanahan (Schools Coordinator)	X	
Jason Whelan (Social Director)		X
Bruce Ransley (Newsletter Editor)	X	
Hannah Robert-Tissot (General Committee)	X	
Steve Cleary (General Committee)	X	
Members – see separate attendance sheet		

Apologies

Andy Maver, Steven Spinks, Martin Marzloff, Robyn Sewell

Agenda Items

#	Description (Moteded by/Seconded by)	Action by
1.	Acceptance of last years AGM minutes – Adam Bridley/Simon Talbot	
2.	Presidents report (attached as appendix) – Colin Hepher/ Marty Jack	Craig
3.	Treasurers report – Mitchell Chivers/Andrew Cawthorn	Colin
4.	Election of committee – See below	All
5.	Best and Fairest medal presentation to those absent at Mid Year Presentation Night – Adam Bridley (B Grade) and Andrew Greenhill (C Grade co-winner)	Craig
6.	1 minute silence in remembrance of Rod Howell	All
7.	Talk on refereeing	Craig & Pieter

Meeting closed 20:20

Election of Committee

Position	Nominee	Nominated by	2nd	Elected
President	Craig Proctor	Adam Bridley	Simon Talbot	Y
Vice President	Chris Cleaver	Mark Lewis	Christine Wickham	Y
Treasurer	Colin Hepher	Marty Jack	Dave Horner	Y
Secretary	Glenn Wickham	Colin Hepher	Andrew Winch	Y
Chief Referee	Nick Martyn	Marty Jack	Colin Hepher	Y
Equipment Officer	Pete Van Der Woude	Curtis Pizzolato	John Mason	Y
Development Officer	Steve Cleary	Jeremy Crawford	Chris Cleaver	Y
Media Officer	Garry Davidson	Phoebe Dalby	Brendan Lewis	Y
Schools Coordinator	Ian Shanahan	Mark Jones	Steve Mason	Y
Social Director	Jason Whelan	Sarah Bridges	Matt McCartney	Y
Newsletter Editor	Bruce Ransley	Simon Talbot	Sarah Bridges	Y
General Committee	Hannah Robert-Tissot	Christine Wickham	Tori Wickham	Y
General Committee	Alice van der Woude	Marty Jack	Tom Milner	Y

Appendix

President's Report for 2009/2010

President's Report for TUHA Annual General Meeting – 11th August 2010

Looking back over the past 13 months, I think we can say it was a very good period for our Association. There were many significant highlights and several significant developments in our operations. They include (in approximate chronological order):

- Another successful Schools Comp in 2009 finishing in late August. Many thanks to Ian Shanahan, Sandra Milner and all others who assisted in the running of that comp. And we thank them again for the organisation and running of the current Schools Comp.
- Also in August, the launch of our new website.
- The trip by 21 of our Junior players to Christchurch, for the 25th New Zealand Schools Underwater Hockey Championships, during 2 – 6 September. Many thanks again to Sandra and Ian (coach), and to Nick Johnston (coach), and to the parents who accompanied the teams to NZ and assisted. By all accounts it was a very successful trip.
- The return of newsletter Breathtaker in October. And another issue out in June'10. Many thanks to Bruce Ransley.
- The second of the showcase/try-out days at the new Launceston Aquatic Centre in November, with good turn-out by our southern players and also by the Launceston players.
- Hosting of the 2010 National Underwater Hockey Championships. TUHA again excelled in all aspects of hosting the Nationals, largely due to the hard work of the Organising Committee under the leadership of Convenor, Nat Wickham and to our fanatastic army of volunteers (including those from interstate and overseas).
- A great performance by our teams at the Nationals, with 1 gold, 2 silver, and 1 bronze medal, and particularly pleasing were the very strong performances by our Junior teams.
- The selection at the Nationals of 26 Tasmanian players in the Australian Team Squads (3 in the Womens, 2 in the Mens, 4 in the Masters, 7 in the Junior Womens, and 10 in the Junior Mens squads).
- Purchase of the new goals and the large plasma screen. Many thanks to our Equipment Officer, Pieter van der Woude.

- Development of the new system of joiners for our walls – thanks to Jeremy Crawford, Pieter van der Woude, Marty Jack, and David Kruse.
- Development and implementation of the new sounding system, finally providing us with a sound-based reffing to Court 2, and then more recently, independent sounding systems for all 3 courts. Many, many thanks to Jeremy Crawford who has expended a lot of time and effort on these improvements.
- Social events – Mid-Year Presentation Night at Prince of Wales Hotel, Pizza in the Pub night (Oct'09) and the Christmas BBQ at Lauderdale. And please don't forget the upcoming Mid-Year Presentation Night on Fri 16th July. And here I take the opportunity to thank, on behalf of TUHA, Tom Bawle and the staff of POW Hotel for their great service over the past year.
- The recruiting of new Desk Attendant Claire Morford-Waite and then brother Christian. An expansion of the Desk Attendant's duties to include the post-processing of the weekly results and entry of votes etc. into the database. And the changes to the pool-side desk operations with new desk position that appears to be working well.
- And here I take opportunity to again express our BIG, BIG thanks to David Wickham who retired as Desk Attendant at the end of last year.
- The continued strong presence by TUHA in Underwater Hockey Australia, with Simon Talbot, Colin Hepher, and myself holding 3 of the 7 UHA Committee positions.
- Simon Talbot reffed at European Championships in Porto, Portugal in April.
- It has been great to see the return to TUHA of few 'old' players – Robyn Sewell, Steve Batten, Sarah Bridges, Kirsty Kay, Ben Coombe, and Anna Coombe (now Seabrook)
- And it's also been great having ex-Australian Coach and legendary player, David Lambert, join our ranks.
- We had a D Grade team move up to C Grade and do extremely well. Well done to Water Rats.
- We had a D Grade team leapfrog over C Grade and exceed everyone's expectations, being very competitive in B Grade, just missing out on the finals by a whisker. Well done to Ariba Amoebas.
- We had teams setting new and exciting standards in choice of team name. Well done to Shapely Bottoms and to Dead Penguins.
- We have seen weekly underwater hockey begin at the Launceston Aquatic Centre and then, more recently, the competition day (25th July'10) that saw good participation by southern and northern players (see report on TUHA website). Many thanks to Garry Davidson for his fantastic work in organising these events and facilitating the reintroduction of uhw to Launceston.
- We are successfully hosted, on behalf of Australia, the Southern Hemispheres/Trans Tasman Juniors Comp, featuring 4 NZ teams and 2 Australian teams, during 6 – 10 July. Many thanks to everyone who participated and assisted in the running of that comp and congratulations to all the players who played some fantastic uwhockey!
- We have had several of our senior players represent Australia at the Trans Tasman Championships in Auckland just last week. Well done to All!
- And another very big positive – Colin Hepher's good management has kept our financial position very strong (Colin's Financial Report is provided for this AGM).

So that's a lot of the good and the positive, but there has also been some not-so-good and some not-so-positive:

- We have had no D Grade for Pennant 1 and nor for Pennant 2 and appear to have slipped in our recruiting to fill the gap created by the D Grade teams moving up to higher grades. Hosting the Nationals took up a lot of our time and energy at the beginning of the year. We also haven't yet developed good systems to ensure we don't lose too many players at the end of Schools Comps i.e. we need to better address the needs of the college-age (Yr11 & Yr12) players.
- It has become more of a struggle to cover as many games as we would like with Guild Refs. Our Chief Referee's survey, which sought to canvas the thoughts of our members on how we can improve the standard of reffing in our pennant competitions achieved a very poor response. But there were some outcomes. We are trialing a revised system of reffing this next pennant which aims to increase the participation level of our players as a whole in the reffing process and hopefully achieve a larger number of qualified refs in TUHA. We are

also looking at every way possible for increasing the average level of player's knowledge of rules (and in particular, the finer points of the various fouls). This education of the rules has to start early, in Schools Comp. But as Bruce pointed out very well in the last Breathtaker newsletter, we also need players to change their attitude and not give our refs such a hard time when they miss seeing fouls or when they make incorrect decisions as judged by players.

- And this the appropriate time to acknowledge the very fine efforts of our Chief Referee, Marty Jack, who has done a great job in a very difficult position. Marty will not be standing for re-election but has indicated he will continue to assist the new Chief Ref with running reffing courses.
- We've had at least a couple of serious injuries in the past year – a ruptured eardrum and a badly bruised eardrum. We need to have many of our players become more aware of what their bodies are doing in the thick of play. This is an issue that can be addressed to a large extent by better reffing but it's also about players being aware and taking more care. I am a strong advocate for making the use of mouthguards as mandatory for all players in our Association and especially for our Schools players and would like to see Tasmania set the example for the other States by bringing that in.

I would like to finish this report by thanking my fellow Committee members for all their fine work during the past year. We are so lucky in this Association to have dedicated persons who are willing to serve on the Committee, some year after year, but there is always room for new Committee players. If you are keen to join the Committee, please don't hesitate to nominate during the elections that will occur at the AGM.

There is always room for improvements in our operations and we know there are still many big challenges ahead. But in comparing Tasmanian underwater hockey to the state of the sport in mainland States, we are still leading the way in many areas. And we look forward to a great 2010 - 2011.

And lastly, on behalf of the Association, I express our great sadness with the recent passing, in very tragic circumstances, of Rodney Howell. Rod was a long time member of our Association and much loved member of team SOS. I personally did not know Rod very well, but I have only heard good things about him from his SOS team-mates: "A gentle, caring man who has left us much too soon". Our hearts and thoughts go out to Rod's immediate and extended family, and also to those in SOS and to others in our Association who have lost a close friend.

Craig Proctor 9/08/2010.