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This report is for the period 1 July 2017 until 30th June 2018



# SOFTBALL NSW POSITIONS

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## PATRON

Joan Fitton

## BOARD MEMBERS

President	Frances Crampton AM
Vice-President	Bruce McCahon
Finance Director	Loretta Watts

Christine Halpin  
Dianne McGowen  
Nathan Organ  
Kristina Travers

## STAFF MEMBERS

General Manager	Cathy Kerr
Events Coordinator	Sandy Oldham
Venue Operations and Project Coordinator	Jody Neilsen
Inclusion Officer	Donna McGrath
CRM	Lynne Townsend
Media & Communications	Andrew McMurtry

## CONSULTANTS

High Performance	John Crampton
Finance	Michael Hannelly
Governance & Policy	Lesa Straker

## LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs Pat Young\*  
Mrs Joyce Merret\*  
Miss Ruth Preddey\*  
Mrs Dulcie Isted\*  
Mrs Doris Simmonds\*  
Miss Edna Nash\*  
Mrs Shirley Fogarty\*  
Miss Joan Fitton  
Mrs Ilma Burke\*  
Mrs Yvonne Edwards\*  
Mrs Glenda Leedham  
Miss Dawn Young  
Miss Pat Rawlings OAM\*  
Miss Judy Phelps OAM  
Mr Alan Burke\*  
Mrs Leonie Ruddy\*  
Ms Kay Thompson  
Ms Carole Peel  
Mr Harvey Milson  
Mrs Neidra Hill OAM  
Mr Darrell Shephard  
Mr Andrew Dodshon  
Mrs Susan Rindfleish  
(\*Deceased)





PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
&  
MAYOR OF BLACKTOWN  
MESSAGE

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A year in review and what a busy year it has been.

- The second half of 2017 saw the conclusion of our 70th anniversary year.
- Hosting 4 National Championships.
- Hosting the inaugural Asia Pacific Cup.
- Adopting a new Strategic Plan for 2018 -2022.
- Reviewing all existing Policies and procedures.
- Developing and adopting new policies and procedures.
- Reviewing strategies for Softball in Australia.
- Establishing an agreement with the Umpires Association which included recommended payment rates for Umpires.
- Enhancing Diamond 1 with state of the art ground cameras and linked video scoreboard to enhance game analysis, coaching and spectator involvement.
- Working with BVM on the redevelopment of BISP and our future aspirations to retain #1 venue status in Australia.
- Enhanced facilities and infrastructure to make BISP Softball the premier high-performance softball venue in the southern hemisphere.

All State Championships continued to be conducted at SNSW headquarters at BISP with additional anniversary activities. I refer you to the GM's report for details.

NSW continues to be the premier State with wins in under 15 Regional Boys, under 15 Regional Girls, Under 17 Girls, Under 17 Boys, Under 23 Women, Open Women and Open Men. We were runners up in Under 19 Men and Under 19 Women with Under 23 Men 3rd.

2018 started with a bang with the hosting of the Under 17 male and female national championships, followed by the under 19 male and female nationals and then the inaugural Asia Pacific Cup. All in extreme weather, including some of the hottest days in history – up to 49 one day necessitating rescheduling of games. An extremely busy time for staff and volunteers all of whom we thank for their respective contributions to the success of these 5 events.

The Asia Pacific Cup (APC) was the largest international event to be held in Australia since the 2000 Olympics. It was fitting that this was held in the best Softball facility in Australia – the Olympic venue at BISP. We welcomed the ultimate winners Japan, plus China, Chinese Taipei, Italy, New Zealand and 2 teams from Australia. This is to become an annual event at BISP and the learning opportunities for Coaches and aspiring players should not be missed.

NSW continues to field the most players in national teams. We had 8/17 in the Junior Spirit Women's Team with 4 officials including Kerrie Porter as Head Coach and Annette Tsitsikronis Manager. We have 8/17 in the Men's Junior Steelers Team with Adam Rindfleish as Assistant Coach and Tony Mackie Video Analyst. In the two Australian teams fielded for the APC, NSW had 10/31 with 4 Coaches and 8/17 in the team for the 2018 Women's World Championship in Japan, the commencement of the Olympic qualifying process.

Congratulations to all State and National team representatives – players and officials.

## TRIBUTES and RECOGNITION

The Women's Open State Team were finalists in the Team of the Year at the Sport NSW Annual Awards and Blacktown Council were finalists in the Local Council of the Year section.

At the Sport NSW Community Awards Neil Crisp was acknowledged with a Distinguished Long Service Award.

Christine Halpin was joint winner of the Administrator of the Year and Matthew Beach was joint winner of the Young Coach award.

Belinda Ashworth (nee Turner), Peter Clout, Fiona Crawford (nee Hanes), Phillip Savage, Kylie Herbert and Andrew Rindfleish were inducted into the Softball NSW Hall of fame.

Our long serving General Manager, Cathy Kerr (29 years with SNSW) received a most deserved accolade in the Queen's Birthday Honours list with an OAM. This tribute was also afforded to Mike and Lis Hannelly. A wonderful acknowledgment of 3 great contributors to Softball in NSW and Australia.

Congratulations to all the above for your respective contributions in keeping NSW at the forefront of Australian Softball.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS:

The AGM saw Dianne McGowen and Nathan Organ returned to the Board. Krissi Travers was elected and took up the Human Resource mantle. We farewelled Craig Oberg with appreciation for his IT efforts and involvement on the SAL committee considering the future of softball in Australia.

The Board has worked harmoniously and diligently in all areas and I thank them for their efforts and enthusiasm.

Vice President Bruce McCahon has decided to "call it a day" after 13 years on the SNSW Board and as the community knows numerous positions at Club, Association and State levels. Special appreciation to Bruce who has been acknowledged by Southern Districts and the Umpires Association.

The writer, as advised at the 2017 AGM will also be stepping down.

#### STAFF:

In January we welcomed Andrew McMurtry as the Media and Communications Officer. Andrew was thrown in at the deep end, commencing in the very busy January period of long days and short nights. He certainly showed his strong work ethic and has significantly increased the profile of softball in the local media.

While we have 9 wonderful staff personnel, all of whom give almost as much volunteer time as remunerated, there are only 2 full time. The Board is currently addressing the best solutions to take SNSW forward and together with Softball Australia and the member States arrest the decline in membership. We have talked about this problem for some years without compromise as we watch the numbers decline.

Kaye Greggs and Scott Rindfleish have continued to lead their hard-working teams of officials who we thank for their passion and enthusiasm.

The Board will be advertising for a Coaching Director to join the Scoring and Umpiring Directors to form a "technical committee" to keep NSW at the forefront of softball in Australia and the region.

Thank you to all Staff – paid and volunteer.

#### SOFTBALL in AUSTRALIA:

There has been a concerted effort in the past 12 months to review and plan. Considerable consultation has occurred with a document "Waiting for an Asteroid" developed to challenge and engage. Nielsen Sports Marketing Research were commissioned by SAL with financial support from the ASC to undertake two separate projects. One to explore the possible synergies between Baseball and Softball – "The Diamond Sports Possible Synergies" and the other "Softball Australia Feasibility Study and Migration Strategy National Model". Both projects should be completed before the end of 2018.

SNSW maintains our independence and have taken the "Unified Behaviours" approach which we have clearly demonstrated with the following:

- Aligned Strategic Plan – after community consultation the SNSW 2018 -2022 Strategic Plan was adopted at the end of January and aligns with the SAL strategic plan.
- Aligned Policies and Procedures. The Board reviews all policies and procedures on an annual basis and confirms, amends or develops as required. As much as State legislation permits we align with SAL.
- National Insurance Policy.
- National database/CRM.
- National cascading website.
- Adoption of SAL physical testing protocols for elite players.

NSW remains the dominant State in National Championships and provides the most athletes for national teams.

For reasons unknown this representation has not extended into the officials' area.

Although numbers are dwindling, NSW continues to have the largest registration numbers, being over 1/3 of national registrations.

#### PREMIER HEADQUARTERS:

The Board approved the installation and investment of cameras and software for Diamond 1 at BISP which included one of the Bullpens. This was enhanced with the installation by BVM of a new Video Scoreboard.

This state of the art facility puts the Olympic Softball venue in a position to:

- Be the Premier Australian venue for spectator entertainment experience
- Have World class training facilities attractive to Asia Pacific nations
- Be the Regional centre for softball performance related research, and
- A Centre of Excellence for softball coaching, officiating and elite player development.

#### SPONSORS AND PARTNERS:

All our sponsors and partners are featured elsewhere in this report. Their support is most appreciated and in turn we ask you the members to support them.

I specifically highlight our two major supporters NSW Office of Sport, Sport and Recreation for their ongoing support and guidance and Blacktown City Council/Blacktown Venue Management.

I have highlighted the facilities and our plans. We have been pleased to work with BVM this year in the planning for the re-development of the park and particularly the International Centre of Training Excellence (ICTE).

This total BISP re-development is the vision of the Mayor of Blacktown, Stephen Bali. We are indebted to Stephen for his great support and interest in our activities, congratulate him on his election to State Parliament and shall miss him when he steps down in 2019.

#### CONCLUSION:

It has been an interesting 6 years on the Board and 4 as President. The passion and commitment of the dedicated enthusiasts is most commendable.

This team sport does teach life values and should be on the up with the return to the Olympics.

There are challenges ahead, but they are not unsurmountable. Changes will have to be made and the new world embraced.

I wish the new Board and my successor all the best.

Thank you for the journey.

Frances Crampton AM  
President



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I would like to congratulate Softball NSW on an outstanding year of competition, tournaments and events from grassroots to the elite.

Blacktown City is a proud sporting city, and Blacktown City Council has remained committed to maintaining the first class facilities at Blacktown International Sportspark Sydney – the home of Softball NSW.

Softball NSW has been an important part of Blacktown International Sportspark Sydney's history and development into an elite sporting facility.

We have been proud to host a variety of high quality events including the Asia Pacific Cup, National Championships and State League competition. We are very excited about the bid for Blacktown International Sportspark to host the Olympic Qualifiers in the lead up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

Congratulations to all of the NSW softball players, coaches, officials, volunteers and staff from Softball NSW on an outstanding 12 months.

Blacktown City Council and Blacktown Venue Management look forward to continuing our relationship with Softball NSW to bring high quality softball and opportunities for participation in the sport in NSW.

Councillor Stephen Bali  
Mayor of Blacktown City



**Blacktown**  
City Council





GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT  
DIRECTOR OF SCORING REPORT  
DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING REPORT

# GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Overall the operations of Softball NSW had a very successful year. Softball NSW were fortunate to receive \$55k through the Office of Sport and the Department of Family and Community Services. This is the most that SNSW has ever been able to source in grants within any 12 month period. These grants are to assist with development and participation in the main and we look forward to rolling out programs in these areas

We have some amazing long term sponsors and none more so than EASTON who we are delighted to say have extended their agreement for another 3 years. The success of the EASTON Demo days clearly showed the commitment of EASTON to the sport but also to the partnership with SNSW.

ELITE SPORTS entered into a 2 year agreement after seeing the successes of their first year as a partner of SNSW.

We welcome SCHWEPPE as a partner who will be supporting Softball not only in the financial sense but also delivering a better customer service to our members.

NIPPON TRAVEL continues to support the Blacktown Junior International Challenge and the Japan Tour.

Thank you to our other long term sponsors QUALITY RIGGING SERVICES, WEST CITY TYRES, JAS MY WAFFLES, KAYS CUSTOM SPORTSWEAR and GA MILLERS

We have an amazing relationship with Blacktown City Council who continues to be the biggest supporter of Softball in NSW. We appreciate the support and professionalism that the staff and management of Blacktown City Council and Blacktown Venue Management have shown SNSW over many years but none more than the past 12 months and we look forward to continuing this relationship as we see the Blacktown International Sportspark continue to transform into a first class High Performance Sporting Hub.

SNSW are fortunate to be the custodians of one of the best Softball venues in the world and continue to explore ways in which to showcase the Softball Centre at the Blacktown International Sportspark. Blacktown City Council continue to invest into the facility and in the past 12 months have installed a new digital scoreboard which will enhance the experience visitors have.

SNSW have a great team of volunteers who can deliver quality events and this was never more evident than through the January and February period in 2018. We played host to the combined UI7 Australian Championships followed by the combined UI9 Australian Championships then to complete the set the inaugural Asia Pacific Cup.

The back end of 2017 saw the 70th Anniversary celebrations continue with another 6 state championships held at BISP in addition to the Annual Awards Dinner and the State Teams Dinner. The state teams dinner has over 300 people attend each year to celebrate the achievements of our players and officials.

SNSW continue to attract many visiting international teams and during the past 12 months this has never been more evident, teams from Japan, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, Argentina, Italy, China and of course the many US College and High School teams visited Sydney and played at BISP.

The decline in membership has continued and for the first time there was a decline in juniors taking up our sport which is a concern but also a challenge to implement ways in which to entice this new generation of kids into our sport. Many clubs and affiliates have spent an enormous amount of time trying to arrest this decline and you should be congratulated on all of your hard work and dedication to the sport. As we explore opportunities to increase our membership we also must not lose sight of our current membership base and retaining these members.

The NSW Government has rolled out the Active Kids Rebate. It will be interesting over the next 12 months to see how many families access this register for Softball.

The success of our High Performance Program was highlighted by the success of our State Teams in particular the exciting wins by both our Open Teams this was the first time NSW has won both of these shields in the one year. The others success came from our UI7 Teams and well as our U23 Women's Team. The UI9 teams were runners up and the U23 Men 5th place.

SNSW were fortunate to have many players in Australian Teams and Squads and we are happy to say that in most teams we have at least 50% of the players selected.

Thank you to all of the State Team Officials and Selectors who freely give up their time to ensure that the players are fully prepared for their next step on their pathway.

Congratulations to Melanie Roche and Natalie Ward who were inducted into the WBSC Hall of Fame a great honour for 2 Blue Blood Legends. Congratulations also to Stacey Porter who celebrated 400 games for Australia during the Asia Pacific Cup.

Softball NSW continues to provide pathways for our junior players through various programs.

2 teams of 12 year olds will travel to Japan to play in the Biwako Open in August. We are hoping that after the success of the 2016 tour that this will also be a success and prove not only to be an excellent Softball experience but also a cultural one.

UI5 Teams, both Metro and Country, are selected to play in the Blacktown Junior International Challenge in addition to the Australian Regional Championships each year.



10 SCCC/LI Courses were held over the 12 month period of this report with 146 coaches completing the courses and gaining accreditation. A number of accredited coaches have not recredited for varying reasons but with some further encouragement and reminders this is slowly turning around. 2 face to face Level 3 Courses were conducted with 35 coaches reaching this level of accreditation.

Merchandise continues to bring in a steady stream of income but more importantly puts the Softball message into the community. The 70 anniversary year shirts proved very popular with over 1000 of these being sold at various State Championships and events. These shirts were also individualised for each purchaser. SNSW continue to offer commemorative items of clothing at state championships these too have proved popular.

SNSW attended Multi Sport Days for students with a disability these are run by the NSW School Sport Unit and are a good way in which to introduce not only the students but also teachers and parents to Softball.

Sporting Schools is in its 4th year and still proves to be a challenge in sourcing Softball Coaches with the majority of session being conducted by private providers.

In conjunction with the NSW School Sport Unit SNSW assists in the delivery of Accreditation Courses for teachers, during the past 12 months over 80 teachers have completed the course.

Whilst we only have a small staff each one is dedicated to giving 100% to the members of Softball NSW. I would like to thank the staff for their hard work and loyalty to the organisation not just over the past 12 months but over many years.

Softball has many passionate and enthusiastic people who continue to drive the sport. We thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

*"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless." - Sherry Anderson*

I would like to wish everybody the best for the upcoming season and encourage you to reach out to the staff for help with anything you need.

Cathy Kerr  
General Manager







## DIRECTOR OF SCORING

### 2018 SNSW State Team Statisticians

Diana Oakes	Open Men
Rowena Whittle	Open Women
Sandra Palmer	U23 Men
Lynne Townsend	U23 Women
Maria Wakefield	U19 Men
Damaras Clarkson	U19 Women
Rhonda Schultz	U17 Boys
Chris Fraser	U17 Girls

### Official Scorers

Official scorers were supplied for the following championships and tournaments hosted by Softball NSW at Blacktown International Sportspark:

Softball NSW Events:

- 2017 Female and Male State League Games (Aug - Nov)
- 2017 Open Women's State Championships (October)
- 2017 Open Men's State Championships (November)

Softball Australia Events:

- 2018 U17 Girls' & U17 Boys' Australian Championships in January
- 2018 U19 Women's & U19 Men's Australian Championships in January

At the inaugural Australia Pacific Cup in February this year, a group of statisticians from NSW, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and ACT trialled a pilot program for Level 5 accreditation. Rowena Whittle's precise organisation of this event made for a well run and successful tournament.

### Scoring Courses and Accreditation (August 2017 - July 2018)

Two Level 3 courses were held - one in August last year and one in July this year with six scorers attending each course. Two scorers from the first course have completed their Level 3 accreditation.

Seven Level 2 courses have been conducted, two at BISP (for Metropolitan affiliates), one at North Shore, and four country courses (Newcastle, Wagga Wagga, Orange and Mid North Coast) with a total of 47 attendees. Twenty-eight scorers achieved their Level 2 accreditation and I am hopeful that many of the others will avail themselves of the opportunity to sit their practical assessment at this year's State League, Open Women's State Championship and Open Men's State Championship games.

Thirteen Level 1 courses were held at affiliate level with 152 attendees gaining their scoring accreditation (144) or reaccreditation (8). This is almost twice the number of Level 1 scorers from last year, which is a very pleasing statistic.

### NOAS Level 2 scoring accreditation has been achieved by these scorers:

Kirsten Kilpatrick (GRSA), Gail Gaynor (IDSA), Les Kiss (HDSA), Donna Zaballero (Mac), Jenny Clark, Rowena Meers, Rose Willingham (MNC), Robert Glasson (MWSA), Lucy Asquith, Elana Cadogan, Elizabeth Cadogan, Kylie Diehm, Anne Harvey, Carolyn Owen, Lisa Pockran, Elizabeth Powell, Sallyanne Quinn, Louese Sullivan, Sharon Taylor (NDSA), Valerie Cooper, Susan Hamilton, Courtney Tuma (NSDSA), Kelli Besgrove (ODSA), Suzanne Slattery (PCSA), Jacqueline Henderson (SSSA), Belinda Donohue, Deanna McNaughton, Yvette Howe (WWSA).

Four scorers reaccredited their Level 2 status.

NOAS Level 3 scoring accreditation has been achieved by these scorers:

Mirza Tong (HDSA) and Maureen Diener (SSSA) achieved their Level 3 accreditation.

Two scorers reaccredited their Level 3 status and eight are in the process of doing so.

Four scorers reaccredited their Level 4 status.

I would like to thank the SNSW Board and Office Staff, Michael and Lis Hannelly, Lynne Townsend and Rowena Whittle for their assistance given to me this year. Thank you also to the affiliate scoring conveners who organised courses this year.

Kaye Greggs  
Director of Scoring





## DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING

The Softball NSW Umpires Program proudly supports umpires and the SNSW Affiliates with programs to promote growth and achievement of personal and collective success.

In 2018

48 Umpires achieved higher accreditation

38 New Level 1 Umpires

19 National Event Umpires

8 International Event Umpires, and

Countless umpires supported games across NSW

The SNSW Umpires Association (SNSWUA) passionately provides a range of services to develop umpiring and the service to softball in NSW. We continue to focus on the five key areas of Our House: Leadership and Management, Service to Softball, Recruit Umpires, Develop Umpires and Retain Umpires.

Congratulations to all the umpires who achieved success this year. Success comes in all shapes and sizes from umpiring your first game, first state championship, first national or international event to achieving a simple goal set for yourself. Umpires often demonstrate a personal ambition to achieve success and this report will showcase many successes.

A special mention to all umpires who have advanced their umpiring skills and accreditation and especially to the 38 umpires who achieved Level 1 accreditation, welcome to the Blue Crew.

The love for softball drives the ongoing commitment and dedication of the umpiring program leaders; and for that I extend my grateful thanks. To the Executive Committee of the SNSWUA and the Association UIC's, I am proud to work with you. Your contribution to umpires across NSW is in some way immeasurable, but very important and greatly appreciated, thank you.

2018 SNSW Umpires Executive Committee

Scott Rindfleish - Director of Umpiring

Andrew Rindfleish - Deputy Director

Vicki Lansley - Secretary

Andrew Compton - Treasurer

James English - Executive Member

Jay Gibson - Executive Member

Leanne Gearside - Executive Member

Dylan Murdoch - Executive Member

Kristina Travers - Executive Member

Thank you to all umpires, umpiring coordinators, UICs, TCU's, mentors, trainers, assessors and support personnel who help deliver umpiring programs across NSW.

Umpire Level Advancements

48 umpires advanced accreditation this year. Up from 44 last year.

Level 1

38

Hayden Schofield - Campbelltown

Lily-mae Clark - Central Coast

Brian Green - Cumberland

Debra Coleman - Cumberland

Tracey Toheriri (Thompson) - Cumberland

Sarah Hazell - Cumberland

Meglyn Dent - Cumberland

Gabrielle Green - Cumberland

Sean Bowry - Cumberland

Scott Kemp - Hornsby

Baydon Deahm - Macarthur

Alexis Cherry - Macarthur

Alannah Lewis - Manly Warringah

Megan Moshovelis - Manly Warringah

Wayne Fitzgerald - Manly Warringah

Nicole Hampson - Manly Warringah

Jessica Russell - Manly Warringah

Susan Keyzer - Manly Warringah

Abbey Powell - Newcastle

Brayden Milford - Newcastle

Gregory Rodgers - Newcastle

Brandon Clark - Newcastle

Erin Partridge - North Shore

Amy Gibbons - North Shore

Eliza King - North Shore

Peyton Henderson - North Shore

Zoe Taylor - North Shore

Matilda Newman - North Shore

Jessica Smith - Penrith

Brock Beckwith - Penrith City

Cooper Easthorpe - Penrith City

Ryan Miller - Penrith City

Lachlan Daniel - Sutherland Shire

Theresa Milaor - Tamworth

Renae Gavin - Tamworth

Ian Hocquard - Tamworth

Ashleigh Jamieson - Wagga Wagga

Todd Maiden - Wagga Wagga

Level 2

Ashley Castles - Central Coast

Dave Roberts - Southern Districts

### Level 3

Joshua Wilde - Hornsby  
Kylie Diaz - Manly Warringah  
Harrison Pudner - Macarthur  
Lachlan Smith - Macarthur  
Corey Hall - Sutherland  
Jason Turner - Sutherland

### Level 5

Andy Birks - Cumberland Nepean

### Level 6

James Townsend - North Shore

### 2017 SNSW Annual Awards

'Andrew Rindfleish ' Umpire of the Year  
Jay Gibson

### Director's Award

Vicki Lansley

### Individual Award for Umpire Development

Jen Womsley

### Affiliate Award for Umpire Development

Manly Warringah Softball Association

### Encouragement Award

Andrew Cooper

### International Umpire Appointments

2018 WBSC Open Women's World Championship  
Kyira Cox

### 2018 WBSC Junior Women's World Championship

Jay Gibson

### 2018 Asia Pacific Cup

Andrew Rindfleish – UIC

Kyira Cox

Amanda Houison

Scott Rindfleish

James English

Krissi Travers

Dylan Murdoch

### Softball Australia Appointments

National Umpiring Committee

National UIC Communications - Scott Rindfleish

National UIC Operations - Kyira Cox

National Umpire Committee Staff - Ron Houison, Darrell Shephard,

Jesse Smith, Kristina Travers.

### 2018 National Championships

Open Men – Canberra, ACT

Kyira Cox

Open Women – Mirrabooka, WA

Amanda Houison - Assessor

Andrew Compton

James English

George Norrish

Krissi Travers

Under 23's – Redlands, QLD

Andrew Rindfleish - TCU

Scott Rindfleish - Assessor

James English

Andrew Birks

Under 19 Male/Female – Blacktown, NSW

Kyira Cox - Assessor

Jay Gibson - Assessor

Andrew Compton

Leanne Gearside

Robert McIntosh

Dylan Murdoch

Jesse Smith

James Townsend

Krissi Travers

Under 17 Male/Female – Blacktown, NSW

Scott Rindfleish - TCU,

Andrew Rindfleish - Assessor

Leanne Gearside

Dylan Murdoch

Craig Oberg

### International Friendship Series

Andrew Birks

Jason Turner

Under 15 Boys – Canberra, ACT

Jess Rooke

Jason Turner

Under 15 Girls – Mirrabooka, WA

Robert McIntosh - Assessor

Shane McIntosh

Jess Rooke

Wishing all umpires great success!

Scott Rindfleish

Director of Umpiring





## AFFILIATE REPORTS



## CAMPBELLTOWN

### SPONSORSHIP

Wests Leagues have provided assistance.

Campbelltown City Council.

Bevelsie Trust has provided \$20,000 in sponsorship for all representative teams U/11, U/13, U/15, U/17 and U/19, over 35 Mens and Womens.

Stonewill Landscaping has provided \$2,000 in kind assistance in skinning Diamond 2 with labour and equipment.

Coates Hire Ingleburn has provided \$1,000 in kind assistance with labour and equipment for Diamond 2

### REPRESENTATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

U/11 Boys and Girls Representatives Team

U/13 Boys and Girls Representative teams

U/15 Girls Representative Team

U/17 Girls Representative Team

U/19 Girls Representative Team

Over 35 Men and Womens Representative Team.

Open Ladies and Mens Representative Team..

Isaiah Akama Tumu - SWSAS Squad

Callum Lillyman – Japan Tour with Softball NSW

### TECHNICAL AREAS

Level 1 umpire Hayden Schofield

Level 1 Coach Kelly Lillyman, Jordan Te-amua.

Level 2 Coach Daniel Milford

Level 3 Coach Jodie Gilford, Alan Gilford, Marshall Walker, Evan Walker, David Fullerton, Maree Grant, Izzy Akama  
Rebecca Edwards becoming a SSWAS Umpire

### PROMOTIONS of SOFTBALL

Promoting our sport to the community at Ingleburn Alive by playing games under lights before the fireworks.

Ghost Classics U/11, U/13, U/15

Ghost Masters Competitions

Hosting Masters Competition

Hosting visiting New Zealand teams

Hosting Development Winter League

Hosting SSWHS Knockout

Facebook Postings

Advertising for all clubs

Working Macarthur Baseball for the Junior Baseball State Championship.

### PROMOTION AND RECRUITMENT

Use of Social Media – Use of Facebook.

Use of our website

Come and Try Day

Working with other sports.

Advertising in new housing estate in our areas.

Visiting shopping centres to promote our sport.

Visiting Schools playing at our park school sport - we promote our sport.

### DIAMONDS

New Skinned infield on Diamond 2 – Upgrade to Diamond 2

We have had 2 Zoned Primary schools and 2 High schools play at our diamonds during the week over our summer period.

Gary Nicholson has worked very hard during our summer season to have our diamonds ready each week for our clubs. During this time other people have jumped on board with Gary and now we have 3 groundsman Peter Philips and Addison Reid who work together very well is the creation of a new ground crew for the season.

Their passion is to show through their efforts to have pristine International and very playable Diamonds. Addison is a landscaper and with the assistance Peter and Gary as well as some of our members (some were only 5,6,7,8 years old) they were able to remove soil which was used to level our other diamonds.

66 tonnes of soil and still counting was used on the infield of diamond 2. Thank you to all who came down over that 2 weeks and helped you were part of a new beginning.

For the start of our new season we hope to have Diamond 1 renovated to the same standard as Diamond 2 which will see Campbelltown have 2 new International Diamonds with Lights.

### FUTURE

A lot of work needs to be done our strategy planning is starting with;

- Pitcher Catcher Clinics (already in place)

- Growth and development plans for our coaches, umpires, scorers and players.

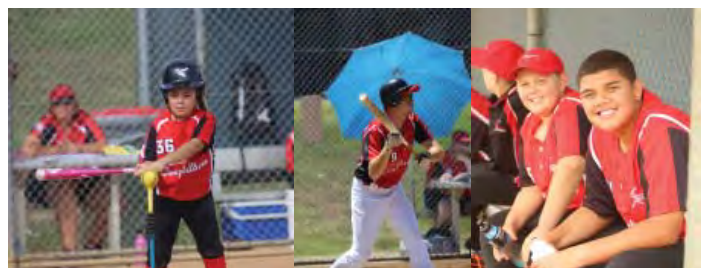
- Open communication and transparency with clubs and members

Thank you to the dedication of our remaining board through a very challenging year, you have stepped up and into roles that show your spirit and why Softball Campbelltown is in GOOD HANDS. We may not have got everything right but with the help and assistance of SNSW and some of our members input we are on track.

A lot has been achieved, perhaps not all in the right areas and we are aware of that and we need to diligently work towards making SCA strong in all areas, this will not happen overnight and we accept that.

Nothing Changes If Nothing Changes

Lee Henry  
President







## CENTRAL COAST

With this being our 40th Anniversary of Softball on the Central Coast, I would like to start by thanking all members and officials of our 7 affiliated clubs for their support and hard work that they have given the CCSAI Board and myself. In addition, I would also like to thank our groundsman and Canteen staff Michael Lees and Kerrie Bugg for their tireless efforts throughout the season.

After a shaky finish to last years competition with the Grand Finals being washed out, we regrouped for the new season, with the focus being on retention of current players and the recruitment of new members to our sport. The board gave up their weekend at the start of the season by doing a letter box drop of pamphlets throughout Kariong to increase awareness of our sport on the Coast, with the goal of starting a new club in that area. Our goal was reached with the inclusion of a new club to our Association made from current and past players to form The Rusty Bears.

As part of our development strategy to make people more aware of our sport and Association on the coast, we have started to build relationships with Central Coast Council, NSW Sports and Recreation as well as the PCYC and a number of schools in various areas.

This season saw us reintroduce the Benny Ball program. Our aim is to educate younger players in the basic skills of Softball. This program was run successfully by Adelle and Amy. Thank you, ladies, for your tireless efforts throughout the season. We look forward to continuing this program next season.

We also attended the first CC SportsFest at Bateau Bay, run in conjunction with NSW Sports and Recreation and Central Coast Council. This was a very successful event for Softball, which generated a lot of interest and new registrations. As part of the continuation of our development program we have registered for the upcoming SportsFest to be held at the new Regional Sporting Complex at Lake Road Tuggerah.

We also attended the Sports for Schools program run at the PCYC Bateau Bay in conjunction with NSW Sport. This program saw over 100 school aged children attend various sports including softball.

This season also saw us reintroduce our pitching and catching clinics carried out at Tumby indoor centre over a period of ten weeks. This program was open to all clubs to help increase the skills and knowledge of pitching and catching for their respective clubs. With the success of this program the board has approved the continuation of this program.

We also ran level 1 Coaching and Scoring courses throughout the season as part of our development program to encourage more involvement from our members. Due to the help of NSW we now have two members, Joshua Bugg and Vanessa Lees accredited to carry out our future Level 1 Coaching courses. Moving forward, we would like to encourage our Coaches to update from Level 1 to Level 2.

Our Junior Blues program continues to grow with help from Vicky Lansley from NSW Softball who has given up her time to come and help Di and Karin train the children to become our future umpires.

As this being my 2nd year as President of the Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board Members, for all their tireless efforts and support throughout the past 2 years. Also I would like to thank our 7 affiliated clubs for the efforts of their Boards and members for making this a successful season.

I would like to wish the incoming Board all the best for the future as we continue to grow the sport of Softball on the Central Coast.

John Bugg  
Chairperson



## CUMBERLAND NEPEAN

2018 Softball season saw CNSA as the largest Softball association in New South Wales (NSW). With close to 1,100 members we provide Teeball and Softball for those aged 3 and up.

Our numbers were strong in 2017/2018, though we did not grow overall. We saw significant growth in our senior competitions, with over 14 teams entering our Mixed 2 competition. Although growth in our senior divisions was good, our junior membership went into decline. I held a President's meeting earlier in the year and again in May to address our recruitment and retention strategy for 2018/2019. Whilst clubs have indicated that Come and Try days no longer reap the benefits that they use to given we have such a wide area to cover the focus is on clubs to look at places such as after school programs and holiday programs. CNSA will again commit in the upcoming season to a recruitment budget providing flyers and ongoing advertising for the association and clubs. In addition to this it will look to do more video-based advertisements and an online advertisement at the cinema (cinema availability pending).

With the change in numbers, the executive has also sought to change some of the competition structure for the upcoming season. This includes the re-introduction of Mixed 4, a Youth Mixed competition and a 5/6 a side for Under 7s (Batter Up). It is hoped that with an increased focus on recruitment and retention along with the Active Kids voucher, clubs will be able to increase junior participation in the upcoming season.

### Promotion & Retention Engagement - Social Media & Website

We continue to utilise our Social Media platform (Facebook) and our website to communicate to our members. We have 926 fans and followers on the page. During the peak of our season we attract a reach of over 4,000 people which for grass roots softball is fantastic. We continue to review statistics from the platforms as shown below to see what content is engaging for our followers and what everyone is looking to share. In the coming months CNSA will look to incorporate an Instagram page to engage with our junior members and those not on Facebook.

### Blacktown Sportsfest

Thanks to our clubs who once again supported Sportsfest in conjunction with Softball NSW. This is a great local initiative that gets Softball into the public domain and used to promote our associations, clubs and local facilities. Special thanks to Phoenix and Cruisers for your assistance with this event.

### Clinics

Following an initiative of our Head Coaches from the Representative Program, club clinics were set up to provide extra training to those not in a representative program to boost their Softball skills. Over the sessions conducted over 60 children participated. With such success, CNSA will be looking to hold these in the future and in the lead up to the registration. Thank you to Quakers Hill Pirates for use of your grounds and coaches – Paul Elder, Donna McGrath, Brett Kirk, Isaac King, Michael Shephard (and apologies to anyone I missed) – THANK YOU!

### Home Plate Status

Following our success of being one of the first associations in the country to receive Home Plate Status for 2017, we had 2 clubs Castle Hill and Titans achieve this from Softball Australia. CNSA is currently 15 points from Home Plate Status and we look achieve this by the end of this week (June 2018).

### Programs

CNSA has continued to provide opportunities and programs for its members. During this season CNSA has offered the following:

- Level 1 Scoring Clinic
- Introduction to Scoring
- Level 1 Community Coach
- Level 2 Coaching Clinic
- Blues n Training
- High Performance Committee
- BlastBall
- FREE Pitching Clinics on Saturdays
- Continued use of the Zooka Machine for U13s and Junior Boys

### Softball Events

CNSA has continued to provide opportunities for its members and others to participate in events closer to 'home' at our home grounds. These have included:

- Hosting Winter and Development League
- Baseball NSW Little League Competition
- Gala days for U11, U13, U15 and U17
- Provide venues for multiple Masters Tournaments

These events provide CNSA with an opportunity to showcase its facilities as well as continue to make the sport visible in the local community. CNSA look forward to being able to host a state championship in the future.

### Live Streaming

CNSA this year bought to its members live streaming most weeks the Friday night and A Grade games. During the Grand Final Day 80% of all grand final games were broadcast via Facebook or YouTube. This is the first time any association has done live streaming in NSW. The reach of the videos far exceeded any expectations that we had when we first decided to this with. Our most viewed live stream/video being the Mens 1 Grand Final this year with over 1,600 views.

### Charity Event

This year we held our 3rd annual charity event at CNSA, with funds going to Heart Kids who aim to help families and are the voice for all people impacted by congenital/childhood heart disease - the largest cause of infant death in Australia. On the day we raised over \$2,000 for heart kids with the association digging deep enjoying face paint, cakes, pancakes and motorcycle rides.

### Social 7s

Following an interest in running a winter competition at CNSA, CNSA looked to add something different to the offseason for its members. Social 7's is Softball Australia's new slow pitch version of softball that is fast, fun and easy to play, with 7 players on each team. In June for 8 weeks, CNSA will hold its first Social 7s tournament which will look to add some fun Sunday Softball to the calendar.

### State Teams

CNSA has been lucky enough over the last 12 months to work with several State Teams. Thanks to the U19 Male and Female teams for 2018 for holding clinics with CNSA members and giving up your time to give back. Thank you to Santa and the 2018 NSW Open women side who every year be Santa's helpers and train with our U7 and Blastballers. Thank you to the U23 State Team for 2018 who will be holding an upcoming session in June as they prepare for the Australian National Championships.

Kristina Travers  
President



**DUBBO**

No report submitted



## FAR NORTH COAST

The 2017/18 season has seen both ups and downs for Far North Coast.

A down for us was the slight reduction in player numbers which saw some clubs having to merge with one another in order to get a team on the diamond. The merger of these clubs did allow those players returning to play out the season and continue to enjoy the game of softball with new comrades.

This season saw the running of the Blast Ball and Junior programs which both were well attended. Additionally, the local Charity Shield event was also held. Promotion of this event will be a focus next season in the hope of growing the number of business teams participating. The event winners nominate a Charity to which their prize money is donated.

And the ups for 2017 saw;

FNCSA host the Lismore Master Games Softball at Albert Park 22-24th September 2017. A total of 16 teams competed for the honors over 4 divisions. The weather was unforgiving with temperatures in the high 30's across all three days. I would like to thank the organising committee, umpires, canteen and field staff for their efforts in addition to the clubs that came from all over to play out an action packed, fun filled tournament, here's to the games in 2019.

Division 1 Winners: Camira Amigos I

Division 2 Winners: Redbacks

Division 3 Winners: Lightning Strikes

Division 4 Winners: Byron Bay Oldsox

Local lads Jay Gibson and Nicholas Shailes had a sensational year. Jay was named "SNSW Umpire of Year". Jay has had an extraordinary year umpiring at State, National and at the International U/19 Women's Championships in the USA in July. The association extends its congratulation to Jay and continues to thank him for his assistance with umpiring, providing guidance and running umpiring clinics for us locally.

Nick Shailes was once again selected to represent Australia in the Open Men's team in Canada, which finished in second place to a strong New Zealand side.

Representation at the U/13 state championships:

Our team can hold their heads high after an exciting weekend of softball. Although a game wasn't won, our team did our Association proud with the way they conducted themselves over the weekend. The scores did not reflect the enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to learn from the experience. The Association would like to thank the Manly Warringah Softball Association for their assistance with pick up players. I would like to thank the executive, coaches and managers for their commitment and support to the team.

2018 saw;

The announcement of State and Local Government funding for the redevelopment of the Albert Park complex to international standards (Softball/Baseball). The redevelopment will benefit the local softball community with new diamonds, lighting and other resources allowing the association to run state competitions and tournaments once completed.

Sebastian Banister was selected to play in the SNSW Country team. Sebastian played against two Japanese teams, two New Zealand teams and the SNSW Metro teams in Sydney on the 24-25 March.

Outstanding Achievements:

FNC Softball recognized the services the following members for their dedication to Softball in our region.

President's Award - Cheryl Nilon for her enthusiasm in promoting junior softball and her efforts in organising parents, players and officials of the Under 13 Representative team. Cheryl has worked hard behind the scenes in recruiting junior players to her club and is the first to put up her hand when the Association is looking for volunteers.

Umpire-In-Chief's Award - Lachlan Zimmermann for his outstanding contribution to umpiring. Lachlan has made himself available to umpire each weekend when he isn't playing. His umpiring has developed over the season increasing his knowledge of the rules and has become an asset and well-liked umpire of the players.

Acknowledgement Awards - Kayleen Shailes, Lauren Forrester and Tara Clark were all recognized for their promotion of the sport in a fun and positive environment, especially to our Lill Sluggers and junior softballers.

Competition Results:

Charity Shield: Joint Winners - Lismore Workers Bush Turkeys & Woodburn Wolfgang (donated \$450 each to their charities)

Division 3: Grand Champions – Ballina Hammerheads

Runners Up - Rous Rascals

Division 2: Grand Champions – Rous Hotel Warriors

Runners Up – Casino/Dodgers

Division 1: Grand Champions – Ballina Sharks

Runners up – Rous Hotel Rangers

Representation at the O/35 State Championships:

After a washout and being unable to reschedule to attend last year's championships the FNCSA Over 35's team were champing at the bit to get out on the diamond with a combination of new and old players. The girls managed to win three games and surprised a few with their skills, determination and team work. I would like to thank the executive, coaches, managers, scorers, supporters and of course the team for their fine representation of FNCSA.

The 2017/18 season was certainly a challenging one. I would like to thank the executive members for their support and guidance. Thank you to the clubs, players, officials, volunteers and supporters for their ongoing commitment to softball in the region.

Christina Costello  
FNCSA - President



**FORBES**

No report submitted



## GEORGES RIVER

In 2017-18 Georges River Softball Association has built on strong bases in the areas of competition, development, finance and administration to create sustainable growth. Highlights have included the creation of new competitions and return of the Winter Ladies; year-round development opportunities for junior players; making investments in the Association while maintaining an operating profit, and a comprehensive review of our by-laws.

### Competitions

2017-18 was the first year of the extended Summer competition at GRSA, which saw games played from September to March. Extending the season brought us into line with the majority of other Associations in NSW, and addressed clashes with other sports in the local area at the start and end of our traditional seasons. By providing more rounds, we increased the value of our competition for members, and we hope that for junior players in particular this has created more opportunity to enjoy softball and develop skills, which will lead to higher retention. We acknowledge the additional work put in by volunteers, particularly coaches, to facilitate the players' experiences.

Two new competitions were created in 2017-18: an Under 23 competition played on Friday nights in Summer, and a Winter Under 13 competition. These initiatives brought in teams from both GRSA and neighbouring associations. I would also like to acknowledge Will Lutke of Sutherland for his work in developing the U23 competition. Through these competitions, along with our Men's Winter competition, GRSA has continued to demonstrate that it is a centre for softball in our region. While we and the Associations near us would not have been able to launch these competitions independently, GRSA has facilitated those Associations coming together to create opportunities for junior and youth players.

The Winter Ladies' competition made a welcome return to GRSA in 2018. While the number of teams is modest at this stage, we hope that more of our former Ladies players will return to the Association, and that our efforts to retain more youth players will help them transition to senior competitions.

### Development

GRSA's development focus is on representative teams and officials, and traditionally the development of non-representative players has been left to the remit of clubs. We have changed this, extending regular development opportunities to all junior players. Those opportunities include:

- A coach the coach session at the start of the Summer season;
- Sunday morning and Tuesday night development sessions through the Winter season; and
- Pitcher/catcher sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

These development sessions create an opportunity to increase the skills base for all players, which in turn builds the standard of our competitions and improves our representative pool. We have particularly targeted older Teeball players to introduce them to pitching, catching and hitting a live ball. By equipping players with these skills, we increase their confidence and reduce barriers to retention.

### Finance

At our AGM in 2017, we reported a significantly improved financial position, and promised that this would convert into member benefits in 2017-18. We have therefore delivered:

- A revised competition fee structure, better reflecting our costs with respect to each player and creating greater value for those playing in multiple competitions;
- A reduction in representative fees, with the additional costs borne by the Association;
- Member benefits including the Summer Presentation & Family Carnival Day, with activities at no cost to participants; and
- Full subsidies of costs associated with officials' development.

At each stage, we have ensured that these offerings are sustainable, and have continued to build our capital reserves in 2017-18. This will enable further investment in our programs, and gives us confidence in our long-term stability.

### Administration

We have a strong administration and governance base and have continued to develop this through a review of GRSA's by-laws and ongoing work with the Sports TG database. The database is designed to allow members to complete online registration, and we have continued to educate clubs about how the database is used. The review of our by-laws has brought them in line with the structure of the Association, and ensures that they provide practical processes for the running of the Association.

The extended season and additional competition has increased the volume of administration and reduced the time between seasons for it to be done. We thank the volunteers who have assisted Di in 2017-18 and invite anyone with a little capacity to assist in day-to-day operations to make themselves known to us.



### Representatives

Below are GRSA's placings in state Championships between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018, and a list of players who represented GRSA and Australia in 2018. We congratulate all of those who represented the Association across a wide range of softball events and wish them the best in their efforts.

#### State results

Open Men – 1st  
O35 Men – 3rd  
U19 Men – 4th  
U17 Boys – 4th  
U15 Boys – 4th  
U15 Girls – 4th in pool  
U13 Boys – 2nd  
U13 Girls – 3rd in pool  
U11 Boys – 3rd  
U11 Girls – 5th

### State and National Representation

Aussie Junior Steelers – Bradley Kilpatrick  
NSW Open Men – Callum Beashel, James Brownlow, Mitchell Brownlow, Nathan Dickinson, Lachlan Hay, Jayden Lach  
NSW U19 Women – Alana Kidd  
NSW U19 Men – Bradley Kilpatrick  
NSW U17 Women – Darrin Crisp (Head Coach)  
NSW U17 Men – Chris Brownlow (Head Coach)

### Acknowledgements

I ask Members to join me in thanking our 2017-18 Executive Committee Members Helen Baker, Di Cooper, Jean Chapman, Neil Crisp, Mar McFadden, Cindy Patmore and Brad Young; our subcommittee members; representative team staff; and all of our other volunteers. I would particularly like to thank Michelle Cotterill for her contributions as an official, Social Media Officer and an active volunteer in our development programs, earning her the Michael Pierson Award for Volunteer of the Year in 2017. Brad Young was awarded the Daryl Melham Award for Excellence in Softball and Member of the Year for his work developing new competitions and continuing to recruit players (in some cases whole teams) for existing competitions.

I congratulate Mike and Lis Hannelly on being awarded Medals of the Order of Australia, and Neil Crisp for a Sport NSW Distinguished Long Service Award.

In 2018 United Softball Club transferred to GRSA. This has provided a boost to our competitions, and several of their volunteers have hit the ground running with contributions, particularly to our development programs.

In 2017-18 we introduced a concept that GRSA is about coming home. Several of our programs have been designed to develop a sense of community and belonging for our members. We have also supported our members not only through the success of softball careers, but some also through extremely challenging personal circumstances. Our members' contributions to each other are what builds this Association to something greater than a sport.

I encourage anyone who is considering volunteering to speak to an Executive Committee member following the AGM about how you might be able to contribute, including by joining one of our subcommittees, playing a part in one of the projects in our Strategic Plan, taking up coaching, umpiring or scoring, or helping around the grounds.

James English  
Chairperson



## HORNSBY DISTRICT

It was another great season for HDSA, both at our home grounds Hayes Park in Galston and on the fields around the State. I would like to start by thanking our Executive and Board Committee for their dedication to making our Association such a fun and friendly environment and making the Hornsby Family a pleasure to be a part of.

We had a successful Saturday competition for both our junior and senior divisions. In our juniors, we had 15 kids registered for Batter Up and 7 teams in our Teeball A competition. The Speedy Rams were announced as the 2017/18 Teeball Top Guns at the end of the season. Our Mod B competition continued with its modified rules to ensure a fair competition with the opportunity for players to learn and develop the basic softball skills. At the end of the season, the Hills Hawks Gladiator Hawks took out the 2017/18 Modball Majors trophy. We had a nervous start for our combined Division 2 and 3 competition however, the development of the teams throughout the season was the real winner.

In our senior grades, we had a great spread of teams across the competitions. Again, we were able to field four teams each in our Division I and A Grade, proving our strength in our top divisions. I would like to pass on my gratitude to our Clubs for working collaboratively to add fourth teams to these competitions – our HDSA Strikers in Division I and our HDSA Coyotes in A Grade. Thank you to Kylie Kellett and Richard Gatt for organising and funding these uniforms that can be used in various competitions outside of Saturdays, such as Blue Blaze and Australia Cup.

Next season, we will look to ensure a fair competition within our B and C grades and re-introduce our C Reserve/ Ladies competition to allow players the opportunity to just play socially and enjoy a drink or two at the conclusion of the game.



This strength transcended through our representative program with another successful season. Although we missed out on State Titles this year, our teams finished Runners Up in both Open Women and UI7. Our UI9 team finished a stellar run with 3rd place at the 2017 State Championships.

- 2017 UI3 HDSA team – 9th at State Championships
- 2017 UI5 HDSA team – 5th at State Championships
- 2017 UI9 HDSA team – 3rd at State Championships
- 2017 Over 35 Women's HDSA team – 5th at State Championships
- 2017 Over 35 Men's HDSA team – 6th at State Championships
- 2017 Open Women's HDSA team – Runners Up
- 2018 UI1 HDSA team – 6th at State Championships
- 2018 UI7 HDSA team – Runners Up

We also announced Development teams for UI1 and UI5 who competed in a number of gala days throughout their respective representative programs. A big thank you to our Representative Committee for their commitment to our players and letting them play as much softball as their heart's content. We held two successful gala days this season – our UI1 Saplings and UI7 Tree Tops tournaments. Thank you to everyone involved in organising the days and the volunteers who manned the canteen, assisted with raffles and supporting the running of the event.

Hornsby was well represented across a number of levels of representative softball this season. In particular, Kandra Lamb represented the Australian UI9 Women's Junior Spirit team at the 2017 WBSC Junior Women's Softball World Championship in Florida, USA in July. We also had four players represent at a NSW level – Georgia Casey (Open Women) and Jorja Barrett, Samantha Glover & Kandra Lamb (UI9 Women). We also had three officials represent NSW – Damaras Clarkson & John Neilsen (UI9 Women) and Emma Heath (UI7 Women). Jess Tolmie also represented the Victorian Titans at an Open Women level. Libby Fitzhenry represented NSW Metro Orange at the 2018 UI5 Regional Championships in Perth. There were also a number of players that represented HDSA at various levels – Gisele Conte in 2017 NSW PSSA team, Jorja & Kandra in 2017 NSW All Schools team, our representatives at Academy level, BJIC level and NSW Combined and Primary School level.

We stumbled across some challenging times at the beginning of the season with our umpiring requirements. Thank you to Peter, Michelle and November Thompson for stepping up and driving our umpiring program into a positive direction. A thanks must also be given to Leo Gyzen and Ian Frigerio for their senior support and mentorship of our junior blues. The return of Adrian Rampoldi strengthened the development of our umpiring program.

With the support of Hornsby Shire Council and NSW Sport & Recreation, we were able to erect a new permanent back net on Diamond 2 for the start of the 2017/18. I am so grateful for the support we have at HDSA to successfully deliver these projects.

Thank you to Richard Gatt for managing the project between Council and Steve at Jackson Fencing. Thank you also to Dave Dunk, Simon Tilley, Simon Fitzhenry and Ryan Jehn for their contributions to our grounds and equipment, in particular watering our dirt/grass during the week and over the summer holidays to improve the quality of our grounds.

To ensure our representative teams always have a place to train – rain, hail or shine – we again utilised the undercover facility at Pennant Hills High School. Thank you to Mr Ross Warren, Principal, and the high school for allowing access. Baulkham Hills Sports Club provided us with a grant again this year to cover the cost of hiring a function room for our monthly board meetings, AGM and pre-season meetings. Their support is great appreciated. Finally, I would like to thank the Board for awarding myself with life membership of HDSA. I am proud to be a member of this Association and thank you for your endless support.

Paige Hyslop  
President



## ILLAWARRA

Our 2017/18 season could best be described as business as usual. Teams and player numbers remained stable as our strategy remains focused on player retention. To expand we will require additional volunteers to share the responsibilities and to action growth initiatives. Our first new full diamond was used a couple of times through the season but will require many hours of dedicated volunteer work to bring it up to standard.

Congratulations to our Braves team as winners of this year's competition and well done to Crushers who were our runners up. Our over 35's ladies fielded a team in the state championships and by all accounts were very competitive and more importantly had a great time. We disappointingly couldn't get the numbers for a male team so we look forward to a progressive strategy to allow those few male players keen to represent to be able to play with another association until once again we get the numbers to field a men's team. This flexibility would certainly improve player engagement, goodwill and advocacy as those players come back and spread the good oil of representative softball.

Once again a small group of volunteers kept the wheels turning. Thank you to Nikki, Brynton, Randy, Herman and especially to Sarah our secretary, registrar and ladies representative team organiser for putting in a huge effort this season. Her introduction onto our committee in recent years has demonstrated the value of succession planning.

Terry Ellem  
President





## MACARTHUR

The Association grounds are located at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve Camden alongside the Nepean River. We provide 11 diamonds – 3 fully fenced. The end of this season saw the establishment of artificial (all-weather) grass to the infield of 2 more diamonds to increase the opportunity to play in wet weather for 4 of our diamonds. The fields are used all year round. The main competition season runs from September through to April.

The natural beauty of our site is always commented on by those who come to visit. The humble past as a market garden and a golf driving range (to name a couple) are long gone and this great Sporting Complex has evolved. Working with Camden Council to provide a quality resource with flexible shared community use has strengthened our place in the local community. The grounds are used regularly throughout the year with all who use them appreciative of the access to the facility and welcoming reception they have received from the Committee Members they have worked with.

All of our junior players play in mixed teams. We believe we are constantly searching for structures that provide the appropriate skill level/challenges for all players. Ideas are managed by the Match and Fixtures Committee that consists of representatives from all clubs. The Ladies and Men's competitions are enjoyed by many players and spectators.

We cater for a wide range of players from the young Tee ballers (from 5 years old), beginners of all ages, club players, and Macarthur, NSW and Australian representative players. Many of our senior representative players also support the development of our newer representative players through club/representative coaching thus continually developing the skills of all involved.

The team of Statisticians are attending clinics achieving higher levels with the core scorers gaining Level 3 and 4 recently. The Director of Scoring encourages everyone to take part in scoring events to develop their skills. Clinics are always advertised so that all interested parties can take advantage of these opportunities.

A new coaching co-ordinator this year will bring with him years of experience and new program initiatives to engage all of our members. With the hope of more clinics to enhance our already talented coaching pool and to help strengthen the game in our area. The access to quality coaching assists many of our players in reaching the higher levels of representation they seek and has given our newest players a sound skill base to grow upon.

The Representative season witnessed more of Macarthur's own Umpires assisting and gaining excellent experience. With our current umpires attending umpire Clinics and Academies helping to develop their skills gaining Level 2 and 3 Accreditation our pool of umpires is steadily increasing. The Junior Blues program is still a success and we constantly encourage members to provide attendance at club levels. We are certainly gaining momentum with the depth of our umpiring.

The Registrations continued throughout the year with our focus on retention of our players. The central venue registration day helps to bring all the clubs together on one day whilst the new CRM system has been implemented.

Softball Macarthur has a bright future always striving to increase our numbers. We continue to investigate new options for the game, development, member retention strategies and new member gains. We would like to acknowledge the continued assistance and support provided by Softball NSW as we strive to provide a quality sporting, social and community experience to the people of Macarthur

Jenny Todhunter  
President



## MANLY WARRINGAH

Membership: 950 – Tee Ball, Modball, Junior, Senior & Over 35  
Female Competitions, Mixed Oz Pitch, Mixed disabled

Facilities:

- 12 Grass Diamonds – 1 skin diamond & 2 with lights
- 2 Canteen/Toilet Blocks
- 2 Pitching nets

Sponsorship:

- Platinum Driving Tuition
- Acknowledgement – Pittwater House, Peninsula Club and Cunninghams Real Estate for supplying shades for the fields
- Sew and Sew – uniform sponsor for Over 35 Rep team

Highlights:

- 2018 U/11 2nd at State
- 2017 U/13 equal 3rd at State
- 2017 U/15 2nd at State
- 2018 U/17 7th at State
- 2018 U/19 7th at State
- 2018 Manly Eagles 5th at Winter League
- 2017 Opens 1st at State
- 2017 Over 35 2nd at State
- 2017 Manly Eagles 2nd at State League

State & Australian Players 2017-2018:

- Tarni Stepto – Australian Opens Down Under Series, Aussie Spirit Squad, Australian Opens Squad, NSW U19 (Vice Captain), 2017 NSW Youth Female Athlete of the Year
- Michelle Cox – Australian Opens Squad, NSW Opens
- Michelle Gorisse (nee Edgton) – NSW Opens
- Brianna Trim – NSW U23, Victoria Opens pick up, Australian U19 Squad,
- Jenna Trim – NSW U19, Junior Friendship series, Australian Junior Squad,

- Kalina Stepto – NSW U23
- Jade Hermaridis – NSW U19 (Captain)
- Nikki Morley – NSW U19 Assistant Coach
- Mya Geros – NSW U17 (Co-Vice Captain)
- Lizzie Hogg – NSW U17 (Co-Vice Captain)
- Jess Squires – NSW U17 Trainee Coach
- Pihuka Duff – NSW U17
- Alyssa Aiello – NSW U17

#### Technical Areas:

- 8 level 1 & community coaches accredited
- 7 new level 1 Blues accredited
- 1 level 3 Blue accredited – Kylie Diaz
- 1 level 4 Blue accredited – Jess Rooke
- 17 level 1 scorers
- 1 level 2 scorer accredited – Rob Glasson

#### Future:

- Continue growth & development plan for association re coaches, umpires, scorers, grounds & players
- Stronger effort to attract more teeballers through Try Softball Clinics and social media
- Establish an Association growth & development program for pitchers & catchers

Doug Freeman  
President



**MID NORTH COAST**

Thankyou all for another great year .

#### Where to start:

- We continue to use facebook as our main medium of communication ,it works for us.
- The retractable net continues to work well. Council have continued to maintain our grounds really well, we thank Kerry and his staff for their assistance.
- Thankyou to Shaz,Matt and Me for cleaning up behind Diamond 11 to enable ball retrieval abit easier

We have had an increase in participants across teams.

Welcome Tom and the Camden Haven Local Lawyers, OFFS (MkII) this year. We have many new faces and returning players plus the disability program in Kempsey. Our competition is very social, I love the continuation of the borrowing rule to help each other out as required, its fantastic to be a part of such a great association.

Different teams facing off in major finals is indicative of a good cross section of players within the association. Congratulations go to the Phoenix and Diamonds who secured the minor premiership in their respective divisions.

Our players continue to travel from far and wide, which is a credit to the calibre of players in our small but social competition. Thank you to all our dedicated travellers for your continued support.

Our umpiring ranks have been very stable over the last season , Thankyou to Trevor, Ron Bruce Rowena Renee and myself

Injuries on the field this year have been kept to a minimum which is always good.

We did not continue with Indoor softball this year. It went really well for 1 term last year, however numbers reduced in term 2 to unplayable levels. resulting in the cessation from term 3 .

The disability program in Kempsey has been stable, thank you to the Nohotima & Greenshield families.

On a Masters level we had players representing at World Masters in New Zealand in April 2017 and Australian Masters in Tasmania in October 2017. Well done to those involved.

Financially we are in a good position with no major expense outlays this year

Thank you to committee and general members for your attendance and contributions over the last season.

Lea Smith  
President



**MUDGE**

No report submitted





## NEWCASTLE & DISTRICT

I would like to thank the NDSA board members for their hard work in the past 12 months. We struggled to get a board and, considering we only had six members with three being completely new to the Board, we certainly met many challenges.

NDSA won the SNSW Country Affiliate of the Year as well as the SNSW Membership award. What a great achievement! Our Club Committees and team officials need to be commended on their hard work that enabled us to take out these prestigious awards.

We continue to develop representative and State Players with our pathways program.

### Individual Player Achievements:

- Grace Wrixon selected for NSW UI7 Female Nationals Team
- Joshua Banks and Ben Cashen selected for NSW UI7 Male Nationals Team
- Emily Gordon (pick up player ACT) UI7 Female Nationals
- Sienna Burgess, Olivia Moore and Olivia Sedgman selected for UI5 Girl's Country Team
- Hayden Moore, Michael Owen, Lachlan Scott and Mayke Telfer selected for UI5 Boy's Country Team

Our results at NSW state titles were very positive over the previous 12 months:

- 3rd – UII Mixed Team
- UI7 Male Team
- UI5 Male Team
- 5th - UI7 Female Team
- UI5 Female Team
- 6th - UI9 Male Team
- Open Women's Team
- 7th - Open Men's team
- 8th - UI3 Male Team

### Results at Australian Invitational Youth Games

- 2nd - Hunter Academy Girls
- 4th – Hunter Academy Boys

Newcastle Softball would like to thank our outgoing Chairperson, Christine Halpin, who decided to not renominate for the NDSA Board for the upcoming 2018-2019 season. Our Association would not be as successful without the tireless work put in over the past 20+ years from Chris and the Halpin family. We hope to still see Chris at Stevenson Park throughout the season as a scorer and spectator.

Rebecca Jenkins  
NDSA Chairperson



## NORTH SHORE DISTRICT

No report submitted



## ORANGE & DISTRICT

Our latest season has come and gone, almost seeming to go under the radar, although we had another busy season it seemed to be business as usual with no major changes to the competition structure. We've again had quite a stable committee who continue to put in an enormous amount of time and effort to make the competition seamless, I am truly grateful for everything that they do.

Once again, many ODSA players have continued to achieve success across various age groups. We had 2 players named in NSW state sides, 10 players (4 girls and 6 boys) chosen to participate at the UI5 Australian Regional Tournament as part of the country teams with the boy's team winning the regional title at Canberra in January. We have again recently had great representation at the country trials and wish these players every success. 3 boys and 2 girls attended the Under 17 State camp and 2 are trialling for the Under 19 Men's team, we wish them well and are proud of their current achievements.

We continue to develop our officials and held a scoring clinic and a Level 1/Community Coaching program with great attendance at both. We are grateful for the grant that we received to assist with these programs.

We are thankful for such opportunities and it ensures a new group of volunteers coming through to assist with our sport. We had teams attend a number of State Championships and appreciate the many pick up players that joined our teams, we would like to look at building on the girl's representative teams as fewer girl's teams were able to form. Our greatest achievements at State Championship level was in the Under 15 boys team who finished with a silver medal.





Our player numbers dropped a little in the junior ages however we did have a small increase in our senior numbers and are hopeful of building on this next season. We welcomed a new club to our competition, Raiders, who entered a team in Tee Ball and the Youth competition. Players attend a social day with a neighbouring association, Dubbo and players from Forbes also attended the day, we are hopeful of returning the favour and are currently working with them to achieve this and have also extended the invite to Mudgee who we have had a longstanding relationship with.

Other successful grants have included funding for our long-awaited canteen extension, we are currently waiting on council approval and are ready to commence construction. We are still waiting on the progress with our new toilet facilities, council are still waiting for funding for this project to proceed, it will only be once this facility is constructed that we will be able to connect running water to our canteen due to drainage (and we can't wait for this).

We have continued to upgrade our facilities with a permanent shade over the grandstand on diamond one and have another due for construction over diamond 5. There is currently major roadworks near the diamonds, part of this will include a new car park which will improve safety for our players and their families. As always, we appreciate the good working relationship that we have with Orange City Council who continue to put a lot of work into maintaining and improving our diamonds.

Finally, one of our most important programs was a continued success again last season, the 'Kandooz' disabilities program was run by our ever reliable and increasing group of helpers which was lead once again by Steve, Lyn and Samantha Rath and Cathy Gutterson, it was also fantastic to see some old softball faces return to assist with this program so thanks also goes to Craig, Chris and Tommy. 'Kandooz' player numbers again increased and with carers, family and friends joining in there were sometimes up to 50 people enjoying themselves on the diamonds. We are thankful again to Department of Sport and Recreation for their involvement with the program.

We look forward to the upcoming season and will continue to build on the strong foundation that ODSA has achieved.

Geoff Kelly  
President



## PENRITH CITY

After 2 years as President I have had a great experience it has been both rewarding and challenging at times, some things have been a success and others have failed. My goal was to please the majority of members not the minority and I think we have succeeded in that.

We had a season of up and downs it was a very hot season and made the games in the afternoon tough to play. These situations are always difficult for the executive to make the right decision and we won't always please everyone with the outcome, when making these decisions the health and safety of our members comes first.

I would like to start by thanking each and every one of you. The clubs, members, volunteers, coaches, umpires, scorers and parents you are the reason this association is great and it makes me proud to be a part of it.

I would like to thank our executive staff for the countless hours and dedication that each and every one of you put in as a volunteer, it is testament to you and your character, we have a great mix of people on the executive with a common goal, we all want the Penrith City Softball Association to be at the top of the game. .

Also, a big thank you to the executive families, every Saturday they are first at the grounds and the last to leave, the help from their partners and kids setting up, packing up and helping out where ever needed is greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Meegan and Cate that jumped in to run the canteen, without you two stepping up we would have struggled to manage the canteen each week. I would also like to thank all clubs, members and parents for completing their canteen duties this year.

My goal this year was to continue to improve the facilities we started the season by purchasing new bases and plates and we have also had a successful grant application of \$50,000 for the upgrade of the diamond one lighting to enable games to be played safely at night, plus many other little improvements along the way. With many other sports hunting for fields we need to keep raising funds and keep improving the facility to ensure that we keep the grounds as softball fields for many years into the future.

For many grants and upgrades like new grandstands and better facilities we will need to have a strong bank balance to ensure we can compete with other sporting codes in securing funds.

To continue to grow we need to support and encourage development teams, this will help us improve the next generation of representative players and have them ready to go if they are selected for representative teams. I believe this will help us bridge the gap between other associations and give more kids a better opportunity to further their skills in the sport.

The second year with the online registration process was a lot more efficient and came with minimal issues and delays, I thank all registrars for their continued support and understanding of the new system.

The clubs have done a great job recruiting and retaining players but we need to do more to increase our numbers across the fields, this year we managed to keep the same amount of members as last year. It is always easier to retain existing members if you cater for what they need. The mixed competitions worked well across the ages with some positive avenues for the future. We need to work on recruiting this year and really push our sport within pre-schools, primary and high schools.

What can I say Thank you Mr Rod Bailey you took on the UIC after a resignation and have produced some great results you managed to have 5 new level 1 umpires accredited by the end of the season and a few more on their way for next season, we had a great roster of blue grew around the diamonds throughout the season. I know we will see many more Baily's Blues in the future and there are a lot of kids and adults out there that are ready to learn and take the next step into umpiring, we now have the right program in place to help them succeed.

Thank you to all the clubs for their commitment to umpiring duties we had a few dropped this year but it was great to see other clubs help where they could.

I would like to congratulate all of our Representative teams and their management staff for a successful year on and off the field. It is a privilege to wear the PCSA representative uniform and by putting that uniform on, you represent each and every member within this association, so wear it with pride and respect. Congratulations also to the PCSA players that have represented NSW and Australia in the past 12 months and been selected to represent in the future, it goes to show with dedication and commitment what you can achieve.

We have ran extremely successful gala days with many teams from across NSW attending, the positive feedback I have received from other associations proves we are doing something right and we are at the forefront when it comes to running these events.

This year we celebrated PCSA 30th Anniversary by holding a one off event that was a little bit different, we had food vans, rides, raffles and competitions out under lights on the diamonds.

I can honestly say what we did that night was not only great for softball but it was great for our local community we had kids that had never played softball come down and give it a go, we had kids and adults relaxed and having a good time out on the fields. I would love to see this type of event back again in the future.

o all clubs and members just a reminder the executives do not make any decisions lightly, we do not have personal vendettas and we do not favour our own clubs, we may not see eye to eye all the time but when we walk into the meeting room we are neutral and we take the time to try and work out what is best for the future of this association.

If you feel you can help out or you have some great ideas please feel free to put your hand up and apply for an executive position. Please remember there are nine of us and over seven hundred of you so any help is appreciated and welcomed.

Finally, If you are on the sidelines watching kids or playing in the afternoon with your friends please be positive and support the kids or your mates, yell out positive comments don't be negative after all remember this is a game and we are here to have fun.

Justin Saunby  
President



## SOUTHERN DISTRICTS

### Facilities

The Association continues to have the use of Jacquie Osmond Reserve / Softball Centre for both summer and winter seasons. We continue to work with Liverpool City Council to develop our facility and ensure maintenance requirements are carried out when necessary.

The year has seen improvements in the administration amenities and refitting of the office area.

### Sponsorship

Our sponsorship with our two main sponsors has now concluded and we are currently endeavouring to gain new sponsors. Liverpool City Council continue to be a tremendous support in repairs and maintenance of our diamonds and amenities.

### Grants

We appointed a board member this year who took responsibility for the attainment of grants and Virginia Harrison has been very successful attaining more than \$20,000 in grants for several areas including Facilities development, Training (coaches, umpires and scorers) and for the purchase of a defib machine for the field. We still have a number of grants applications which we are waiting to receive responses.

### Highlights

We have had major changes in our board over the last twelve months with 5 new people coming onto the board. This has, as expected had some major benefits and also caused the loss of some corporate knowledge to the association.

The benefits to the association include the modernisation of our canteen and accounting systems, along with the introduction of eftpos (square) to the canteen. The eftpos is also being utilised for payment of rep and equipment fees for players along with charges for training courses.



This has proved very popular within the association and resulting in approximately 15% of all sales going through the canteen on eftpos. An increased focus on the development of our rep squads and coaching staff is showing great progress.

Pat Paul received the Services to Softball NSW award at the softball NSW dinner in September.

A major focus has been generated within the association to build our social media profile. The increase in the frequency and quantity of photos and events published on Facebook and our website greatly improving our popularity and response rates. The live telecasting of games is starting to happen, and we are happy with the response. A big focus in 2018 on recruitment is being initiated and we hope this bears fruit from the upcoming season. We hosted and held two master's tournaments in April and May at our grounds this year and U/17's SNSW state championships which was very successful for the association. Also, we held a couple of rounds of Development league and winter league.

The association continues to provide opportunity's and support to our players and officials who strive to represent the Association, NSW and Australian.

It has been a huge 12 months for our players and officials representing NSW and Australia. Over the past 12 month the association have provided financial assistance to State and National players and officials Blake Jackson, Daniel Harrison, Thomas Zeylemaker, Mason Rossi, Izack Rossi, Tim Nazar, Zac Roberts, Zac Raso, Kye Burrows, Devontay Fasavalu, Dylan Andrade-Paez to the value of more than \$4,500. I would especially like to congratulate Blake Jackson and Shaun Lanaghan on their selection for the Australian Junior Men's team playing at the World Junior Men's Softball Championships in Canada in July. To Hayden Mathews, Liam O'Leary, Kieran O'Leary and Aiden Kajan congratulations on your selection in the Australian Open Men's team. Bradley Harrison, Matthew Sheehan and Daniel Harrison were selected for the Under 23's National Championships in Qld. Daniel Harrison, Blake Jackson, Thomas Zeylemaker and Shaun Lanaghan were selected for the Under 19's NSW team. Tony Jackson was selected as assistant coach to the Under 17's men's team and Fiona Williams selected as team administrator and Maria Wakefield as Statistician for the Under 19's Men's team. Peta Wakefield as a statistician was also selected for involvement in the International Series in January at BISP.

#### Technical Areas

The association continues to develop our umpiring team via our UIC Paul Bourke with the assistance of our small umpiring team headed by Jennie McKenny and Dave Roberts. The junior blues programming is developing, and we have some good new umpires coming along.

We have had impressive development of our coaches with good attendance for our level 1, 2 and 3 courses this year.

#### Future

The association looks forward to maintaining our great relationship with Liverpool City council. The expansion of our recruitment program in cross targeting winter sports with discounted registrations and specialist support for teams coming across from other sports is looking promising. We will continue to try to build our positive interaction with the local press.

Kath Warburton  
President



## SUTHERLAND SHIRE

No Report Submitted







## TAMWORTH

Another softball season has come and gone. This year we saw an unfortunate drop in teams for our senior competition which resulted in there only being one competition offered comprising of 6 teams. The board did outline opportunities for a similar competition and structure to last year however numbers did not sustain the continuation of the format. It was pleasing as well to only have minor round disruptions through wet or warm weather compared to last season.

Juniors again look onward and upwards and thanks greatly to the efforts made through Brett Truer. This season saw the introduction of a mod ball competition which enabled juniors to compete against others of the same age rather than having to step up into senior games to get this experience. This has also seen some development in pitching which can lead to future expansion and development as these young players grow into the game. There still was a few juniors who also committed to playing senior competition, more games and experience for those involved. All in all the future is bright in junior ranks and I hope this continues in years ahead to expand and develop talent in Tamworth.

Tamworth Softball Association are not permitted to play in state carnivals due to only being associate affiliates however Brett has put together a development squad which will be able to play in gala events and such. The aim is to give developing young talent a window of opportunity to compete against players of a similar age group but higher skill levels. As numbers in association build and the need to go full affiliation status, Tamworth should be well prepared to enter the representative arena again. It is pleasing to see that a start and vision has been set to get back into rep softball. Umpiring ranks have risen this year.

I am pleased to announce that we have had 4 people go through mentoring and assessment to achieve their level 1 accreditation. Thanks to SNSWUA Leanne Gearsides together with myself who conducted a clinic to help improve the knowledge and skill levels of participants interested. The four umpires who gained accreditation were Ian Hoquard, Chucky Phillip, Theresa Milaor and Renae Gavin. Theresa also was invited to and participated in umpiring Japanese and NSW teams in the Blacktown Junior International Challenge. Theresa received some great feedback and experience working with umpires and athletes of all levels. She did a marvellous job and I am extremely proud to have been involved in her development.

This year softball was one of the first summer sports to go in on the restructured sport user agreement from Tamworth Regional Council. There were opportunities given to all sports to reduce fees and charges according to the amount of extra preparation softball could contribute to the grounds. The fee structure demonstrated

to us saw a minor reduction compared to the old scheme so the board elected to continue on the path of council completing all preparations for games. Unfortunately the council has neglected to prepare an invoice on goods and services to date due to a glitch in their systems and processes at the time of my report but hopefully a benchmark costing will enable some movement for future boards to take into consideration in cost savings.

It would be great to see numbers and interest increase so as Tamworth Softball could form and sustain a proactive grounds committee and prepare fields each week for competition. Till then we continue to meet monthly with council management to talk over the issues and resolutions with facilities and surfaces. On this note council also looks to take on the ownership of the clubhouse. There will be a new keying system introduced in which all keys will be signed for and those signatories held accountable for the keys in their use. Council now also pay all power and gas to the clubhouse which has taken some years to get through.

I wish to thank the members of the board and the membership of Tamworth Softball for their support throughout the season and welcome a new board and direction for the season ahead. It is time for me to move on and to make way for others to bring forward new ideas. I am proud to have been involved again with softball in Tamworth and look forward to seeing a new direction and expansion in the years ahead.

Ashley Castles  
President



## TWEED COAST

No report submitted





## WAGGA WAGGA

The Wagga Softball last season commenced on the 14th October 2017.

We had strong numbers in our juniors with 26 teams registered. Unfortunately both our senior Men's & Women's competitions were lacking in registration numbers for the season with again only 3 clubs able to enter an A grade Women's team & Men's following the same fate. The Women's competition proceeded for the season with 3 team's taking turns at playing a double header one week & having a bye the next. The Men's competition proceeded as an open's comp with both A and B grades playing off until finals when it split into Cup & Plate.

Unfortunately Blu J's club went into recess for the season unable to field teams. This was disappointing to see that for the second year running a club not having the support of it's members and numbers to continue into another season. This left four clubs for the season ahead, Saints, Turvey Park, South Wagga Warriors and Lake Albert to continue on. Both Turvey Park & Saints have strong number in the junior registrations and the committee would love to see South Wagga & Lake Albert really put in a big effort to grow their numbers for future succession planning.

We are pleased to see how many of our young players took the opportunities to represent at various carnivals & championships this season. Our families always enjoy the trip to Canberra for a very family friendly Australia Day carnival as a great opportunity for our juniors to improve their softball and play numerous games over the weekend and for some their first experience at representing.

WWSA had a very successful representative year with players representing in PSSA, Riverina, CHS & NSW CCC, UI6 Junior Aussie Spirit and Open female Aussie Spirit teams. Five players were selected in the under 15 Country team for the nationals in January (3 boys & 2 girls) and did a terrific job. WWSA sent a team in the UI7 female and under 19 female State Championships and had several male players represent as pick up players in the UI5's State Championships for Sutherland, George's River and Orange with notable mention to 3 of our boys who played as pick up players in the Orange team who won the UI5 male state championships. We forged a great relationship again with Orange Softball and sharing players to make up teams in the UI7 Boys, U 15 girls & U 11 (mixed) teams for our regions.

The Southern Sports Academy in its second season back since reforming had a great year with 13 girls & 3 boys getting the opportunity to improve their skills within this program.

Recruitment in general especially umpiring recruitment and development needs to be our focus for the season ahead to ensure we focus on growing registrations for a stronger competition and assist in developing our people resources and officials.

We would like to thank SNSW for conducting a SCCP/Level 1 Coaching course for 12 of our members. Also and Kaye Greggs visited running a level 1 & 2 scorers course with 23 people achieving their level 1 & 3 people achieving level 2. This was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

I would like to thank all the people who volunteer their time to softball so that others can enjoy this sport and all it has to offer, activity, opportunity, comradery, achievement, sportsmanship and most importantly fun and friendship. Our executive committee have been a pleasure to work with this past year and I thank them all for their dedication and service to the association. Thank you also to all the other volunteers who help their clubs by coaching, scoring or as a committee member. It is so important as many hands make light work and we don't wish to see anymore clubs lost.

It is exciting times ahead for our association as we have been in discussion with Wagga Wagga City Council (WWCC) about diamond one getting a resurfacing before our season begins to improve its surface. We applied for a couple of grants in conjunction with WWCC for a desperately needed upgrade to our amenities block and we are waiting to hear in the coming months if we have been successful. August next year will mark the 50th anniversary of WWSA Inc. officially forming. I would like planning to begin for a big celebration of this milestone and look forward to collaborating with some of our Life Members to achieve this.

Overall 2017/2018 was a positive year, I would like to encourage everyone who loves the game to put up their hand to help keep softball moving forward as a great sport in our community. Many hands make light work come together in a positive manner not for personal gain but for the association and softball community itself.

Let's have a great year ahead and make 2018-2019 season memorable.

Deanna McNaughton  
President





STATE EVENTS RESULTS  
STATE TEAMS  
2017 AWARDS



# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS



2018  
UII State Championship  
Boys

1st	Southern Districts
2nd	Macarthur
3rd	Georges River
4th	Penrith City
5th	Cumberland Nepean
6th	Campbelltown
7th	Central Coast
8th	Orange
9th	Sutherland



2017  
UII State Championship  
Boys

1st	Macarthur
2nd	Georges River
3rd	Sutherland
4th	Cumberland Nepean
5th	Penrith City
6th	Campbelltown
7th	Southern Districts
8th	Orange
9th	Newcastle



2018  
UII State Championship  
Girls

1st	Cumberland Nepean
2nd	Manly Warringah
3rd	Penrith City
4th	North Shore
5th	Georges River
6th	Hornsby
7th	Southern Districts
8th	Campbelltown



2017  
UII State Championship  
Girls

1st	North Shore
2nd	Cumberland Nepean
=3rd	Sutherland & Manly Warringah
5th	Penrith City
6th	Georges River
7th	Macarthur
8th	Southern Districts
9th	Hornsby
10th	Campbelltown
11th	Central Coast
12th	Far North Coast



# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS



2017  
UI5 State Championship  
Boys

- |     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| 1st | Macarthur          |
| 2nd | Orange             |
| 3rd | Newcastle          |
| 4th | Georges River      |
| 5th | Cumberland Nepean  |
| 6th | Sutherland         |
| 7th | Southern Districts |
| 8th | Penrith City       |



2018  
UI7 State Championship  
Mens

- |     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| 1st | Macarthur          |
| 2nd | Penrith City       |
| 3rd | Newcastle          |
| 4th | Georges River      |
| 5th | Southern Districts |
| 6th | Orange             |
| 7th | Sutherland         |



2017  
UI5 State Championship  
Girls

- |       |                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1st   | North Shore                      |
| 2nd   | Manly Warringah                  |
| =3rd  | Cumberland Nepean & Penrith City |
| 5th   | Hornsby                          |
| 6th   | Sutherland                       |
| 7th   | Orange                           |
| 8th   | Georges River                    |
| =9th  | Campbelltown & Newcastle         |
| =11th | Macarthur & Southern Districts   |
| 13th  | Central Coast                    |



2018  
UI7 State Championship  
Womens

- |      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| 1st  | Cumberland Nepean  |
| 2nd  | Hornsby            |
| 3rd  | Penrith City       |
| 4th  | Macarthur          |
| 5th  | North Shore        |
| 6th  | Southern Districts |
| 7th  | Manly Warringah    |
| 8th  | Sutherland         |
| 9th  | Newcastle          |
| 10th | Wagga Wagga        |
| 11th | Central Coast      |
| 12th | Campbelltown       |



# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS



2018  
UI9 State Championship  
Men

1st	Macarthur
2nd	Penrith City
3rd	Sutherland
4th	Georges River
5th	Newcastle
6th	Southern Districts
7th	Orange



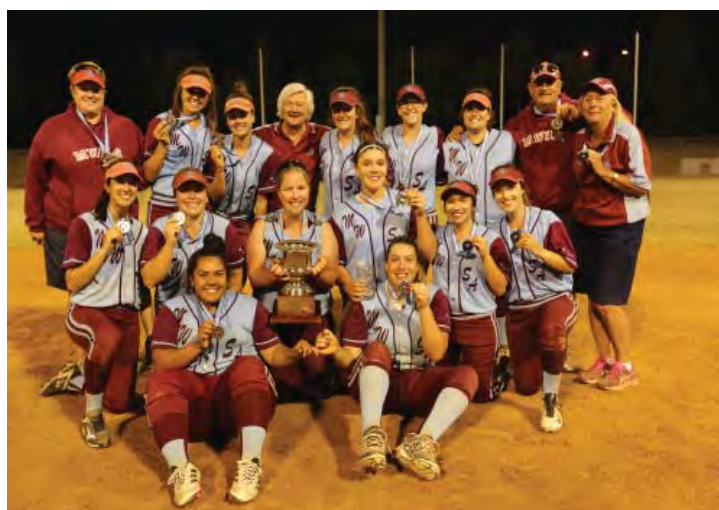
2017  
Open State Championship  
Men

1st	Georges River
2nd	Macarthur
3rd	Cumberland Nepean
4th	Southern Districts
5th	Penrith City
6th	Newcastle
7th	Campbelltown



2018  
UI9 State Championship  
Women

1st	Hornsby
2nd	Sutherland
=3rd	Cumberland Nepean & North Shore
5th	Macarthur
6th	Penrith City
7th	Manly Warringah
8th	Wagga Wagga
9th	Newcastle
10th	Campbelltown



2017  
Open State Championship  
Women

1st	Manly Warringah
2nd	Hornsby
3rd	Cumberland Nepean
4th	Penrith City
5th	North Shore
6th	Newcastle
7th	Macarthur
8th	Campbelltown
9th	Georges River
10th	Central Coast



# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS



2018  
Over 35 State Championship  
Men

- 1st Cumberland Nepean
- 2nd Southern Districts
- =3rd Georges River & Macarthur
- =5th Newcastle & Penrith City
- =7th Campbelltown & Hornsby



2018  
Over 35 State Championship  
Women

- 1st Sutherland
- 2nd Cumberland Nepean
- =3rd Manly Warringah & Newcastle
- =5th Far North Coast & Illawarra
- =7th Penrith City & Southern Districts
- =9th Hornsby & Macarthur
- 11th Campbelltown



# LEAGUES RESULTS



2017  
State League  
Men

## Final Series Washed Out

1st	Dolphins
2nd	Tropics
3rd	Thurabredz
4th	Mounties
5th	UWS United
6th	Titans
7th	Demons

2017  
State League  
Women

## Final Series Washed Out

1st	Sharks
2nd	Manly Eagles
3rd	Norwest Wolves
4th	Northern Storm
5th	Hills
6th	Canberra Eclipse



2018  
Development League  
Girls

1st	Hit Squad
2nd	Macarthur
3rd	Glenmore Phantoms
4th	Cumberland Force Gold
5th	Cumberland Force Black
6th	Blue Jays
7th	Norwest Wolves



2018  
Winter League  
Women

1st	Cumberland Force
2nd	Phoenix
3rd	Hawks
4th	Glenmore Phantoms
5th	Manly Eagles
6th	Sharks
7th	Sweet Heat
8th	Hills
9th	Manly All Stars
10th	Country Coasties
11th	Blue Jays



2018  
Development League  
Boys

1st	Macarthur
2nd	Blue Jays
3rd	Barbarians
4th	Cumberland Force



## 2018 NSW OPEN WOMEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Perth

DATE: 6 - 12 January 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE

NSW 5 defeated QLD 1

Head Coach:

Kerrie Porter

Assistant Coaches:

Gaye Ledingham

Kristy Simmonds

Administrator:

Annette Tsitsikronis

Statistician:

Carolyn Buttsworth

Physiotherapist:

Kandice Goodwin

### AWARDS

Midge Nelson MVP

Georgia Casey

Rosemary Adey Rookie

Shannon Keever

Player of the Final

Stacey McManus

Stacey Porter \*(Captain)

Stacey McManus\* (V/Captain)

Georgia Casey\*

Michelle Cox\*

Amelia Cudicio\*

Michelle Gorisse

Shannon Keever\*

Rachel Lack\*

Nicola Maitland

Molly Meenan

Tahli Moore

Kaia Parnaby\*

Samantha Poole\*

Ellen Roberts\*

Rachael Sechi

Taylah Tsitsikronis\*

### GILLEYS SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. NSW Firestars

2. QLD Heat

3. SA Starz

4. VIC Titans

5. ACT Diamonds

6. WA Flames

MCLAUGHLIN CUP WINNERS - QLD Heat



## 2018 NSW OPEN MEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Canberra

DATE: 14 - 20 January 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE

NSW 2 defeated ACT 1

Head Coach:

Adam Sheehan

Assistant Coaches:

Troy Lach

James Todhunter

Administrator:

Lesley Darby

Statistician:

Diana Oakes

Video Analyst:

Darren Oakes

### AWARDS

Rookie Award

Callum Beashel

Player of the Final

Callum Beashel

Joel Wards (Captain)

Liam O'Leary\* (V/Captain)

Callum Beashel

Blake Bell

James Brownlow

Mitchell Brownlow

James Darby

Nathan Dickinson

Lachlan Hay

Aidan Kajan

Jayden Lach

Hayden Mathews\*

Kieran O'Leary

Luke Ollerenshaw

Harri Peters\*

Peter Wards

### JOHN REID SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. NSW

2. ACT 89ers

3. QLD Patriots

4. Western Blaze

5. Victoria

6. SA

\* Denotes players selected in Australian Teams or Squads



2018 NSW U23 WOMEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Brisbane

DATE: 11 - 14 July 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE  
NSW 4 defeated QLD 2

Head Coach: Chris Coleman  
Assistant Coach: Ashley Castles  
Lyneene Orsini  
Administrator: Lizbid Solling  
Statistician: Lynne Townsend

AWARDS

Batting Award  
Ashleigh Wickens  
Pitching Award  
Gabrielle Plain  
Player of the Final  
Gabrielle Plain

Emma Iuliano  
Jade Farrell  
Caitlin Byrne  
Breanne Honeybrook  
Chantelle Ladner  
Caitlin Michels  
Eliza Murphy  
Gabrielle Plain  
Maddie Smith  
Kalina Stepto  
Brianna Trim  
Ashleigh Wickens  
Bianca Worth

JOYCE LESTER SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. NSW	2. QLD
3. WA	4. SA
5. ACT	6. VIC



2018 NSW U23 MEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Brisbane

DATE: 11 - 14 July 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE  
QLD 12 defeated ACT 6

Head Coach: Peter Rainer  
Assistant Coach: Geoff Kelly  
Administrator: Selwyn Williams  
Statistician: Sandra Palmer

AWARDS  
Nil

Matthew Beach  
Nathan Corrigan  
Henry Groth  
Bradley Harrison  
Daniel Harrison  
Aiden Kelly  
Nichols Plunkett  
Joahua Ryan  
Ryan Semmens  
Mitchell Seymonsbergen  
Matthew Sheehan  
Joshua Wickens

LAING HARROW SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. QLD	2. ACT
3. WA	4. VIC
5. NSW	

\* Denotes players selected in Australian Teams or Squads





## 2018 NSW UI9 WOMEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Sydney

DATE: 22 - 28 January 2018

### GRAND FINAL SCORE

QLD 5 defeated NSW 4

Head Coach: John Neilsen  
 Assistant Coaches: Brett Kirk  
 Nikki Morley  
 Administrator: Sue Pobjie  
 Statistician: Damaras Clarkson  
 Physiotherapist: Stephanie Randall

### AWARDS

Nil

Jade Hemaridis (Captain)  
 Eliza Murphy (V/Captain)  
 Tarni Stepto \* (V/Captain)  
 Sophie Aitken\*  
 Jorja Barrett\*  
 Breanna Evans  
 Samantha Glover\*  
 Emma Grant  
 Alana Kidd  
 Kandra Lamb  
 Chloe Minehan  
 Katrina Ryder  
 Anisha Sawaid\*  
 Jenna Trim\*  
 Shaylan Whatman\*  
 Jessica Woolbank\*

### ELINOR MCKENZIE SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. QLD	2. NSW
3. SA	4. VIC
5. ACT	6. WA



## 2017 NSW UI9 MEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Sydney

DATE: 22 - 28 January 2018

### GRAND FINAL SCORE

QLD 6 defeated NSW 5

Head Coach: Adam Rindfleish  
 Assistant Coaches: Scott Rindfleish  
 James Todhunter  
 Administrator: Fiona Williams  
 Statistician: Maria Wakefield

### AWARDS

#### MVP

Jarred Garland  
Best Pitcher  
 Shaun Lanaghan  
Best Batter  
 Jarred Garland

Shaun Lanaghan\* (Captain)  
 Mac Reith-Snare (V/Captain)  
 Josh Bond\*  
 Logan Campbell  
 Thomas Cass  
 Jacob Donaldson\*  
 Jarreg Garland\*  
 Henry Groth  
 Daniel Harrison  
 Blake Jackson\*  
 Bradley Kilpatrick\*  
 Ryan King\*  
 Chris Plain\*  
 Harrison Pudner  
 Lachlan Smith  
 Thomas Zeylemaker

### NOX BAILEY FINAL STANDINGS

1. QLD	2. NSW
3. ACT	4. VIC
5. WA	

\* Denotes players selected in Australian Teams or Squads



## 2018 NSW UI7 WOMEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Sydney

DATE: 6 - 12 January 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE

NSW 3 defeated QLD 1

Head Coach: Darrin Crisp  
 Assistant Coaches: Wayne Warren  
 Sarah Wickens  
 Administrator: Emma Heath  
 Statistician: Christine Fraser

### AWARDS

Batting Award

Sasha Willems

Player of the Final

Emily Peters

Ellie Marks\* (Captain)  
 Mya Geros\* (V/Captain)  
 Elizabeth Hogg\* (V/Captain)  
 Alyssa Aiello  
 Ryleigh Arnott\*  
 Georgia Britton  
 Pihuka Duff  
 Shelby Fulton  
 Mia Gilmore\*  
 Isabelle Hanna\*  
 Sophie Huxley  
 Layhnee Kearnes\*  
 Kelley Lennon  
 Emily Peters\*  
 Sasha Willems\*  
 Grace Wrixon\*

### ESTHER DEASON SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. NSW	2. QLD
3. WA	4. ACT
5. SA	6. VIC



## 2018 NSW UI7 MEN'S TEAM

VENUE: Sydney

DATE: 6 - 12 January 2018

GRAND FINAL SCORE

NSW 5 defeated QLD 2

Head Coach: Chris Brownlow  
 Assistant Coaches: Dave Garland  
 Tony Jackson  
 Administrator: Dave Sheppard  
 Statistician: Rhonda Schultz

### AWARDS

Player of the Final

Ethan Field

Alex Gutteridge\* (Captain)  
 Ethan Field\* (V/Captain)  
 Joshua Banks\*  
 Kye Burrows\*  
 Benjamin Cashen\*  
 Jack Davies  
 Jeremy Garland  
 Corey Gleeson\*  
 Blake Hunter\*  
 Tyler Kelly  
 Zac Raso\*  
 Zachary Roberts  
 Christopher Rutherford  
 Hayden Shaw\*  
 Jack Taylor  
 Lachlan Walton

### ARTHUR ALLSOPP SHIELD FINAL STANDINGS

1. NSW	2. QLD
3. VIC	4. WA
5. ACT	

\* Denotes players selected in Australian Teams or Squads

# 2017 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS



## AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR

Winner: Cumberland Nepean  
Finalists: Cumberland Nepean, Manly Warringah, Newcastle, Penrith City, Sutherland



## MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Winner: Newcastle  
Finalists: Cumberland Nepean, Far North Coast, Newcastle, Penrith City



## COUNTRY AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR

Winner: Newcastle  
Finalists: Central Coast, Far North Coast, Newcastle, Orange



## DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Winner: Campbelltown  
Finalists: Campbelltown, Cumberland Nepean, Hornsby, Manly Warringah



## SOCIA MEDIA AWARD

Winner: Cumberland Nepean  
Finalists: Campbelltown, Cumberland Nepean, Penrith City, Sutherland



## CLUB OF THE YEAR

Winner: Ingleburn RSL Softball Club  
Finalists: Ingleburn RSL (Campbelltown), Strikers (Newcastle), Wildcats (Hornsby)



## GOOD GOVERNANCE AWARD

Winner: Penrith City  
Finalists: Cumberland Nepean, Newcastle, Penrith City, Sutherland

## SOFTBALL NSW SERVICE TO SOFTBALL AWARDS



Sue Brandenburg



Lesley Darby



Alan McNulty



Pat Paul





Office  
of Sport  
Sport & Recreation



Blacktown  
City Council



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