

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2015

Well another season as come and gone!! I want to thank everyone for their support and participation over the 2015 season. A special thanks to all of the coaches and managers who have given up their precious time to support the players and the club. Your hard work and enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed.

The club entered 10 junior teams and 7 senior teams for the 2015 season (up from 7 junior teams and 5 senior teams in 2014):-

- Senior Men Division 1
- Senior Men Division 5
- Senior Men Division 7
- Over 30 Division 1
- Over 30 Division 2
- Senior Women Division 1
- Senior Women Division 3
- Under 13
- Under 12
- Under 10
- Under 9 Welsh
- Under 9 Dragons
- Under 8 Red
- Under 8 Welsh
- Under 7
- Under 6 Welsh
- Under 6 United

Congratulations to the following teams who made the finals in 2015:-

- Under 9 Welsh (Premiers runners-up)
- Under 9 Dragons (Premiers runners-up and Champions runners-up)
- Under 12 (semi-finalists)
- Senior Women Div 1 (Premiers and Champions)
- Senior Men Div 5 (Premiers runners-up)

The year started early for some with plenty of mowing and ground maintenance during the offseason which had the field looking fantastic at the beginning half of the season. We were able to purchase and install new goal posts before the first game of the season and a big thankyou to all those blokes that assisted to get the posts up. A special thankyou must go to Scott Simpson from Atomic Sports who supplied the club with the goals at a special rate.

The club was again well supported by the members with plenty of volunteers assisting with fundraising via BBQ's, chocolate drive and attending and participating in our annual trivia night. We were able to raise a total of \$10,516.50 from the following fundraisers throughout the season:-

- Fete BBQ - \$199.40
- Bunnings sausage sizzle - \$631.55
- State Titles BBQ - \$5,230.55

- Chocolate Drive - \$2,550.00
- Trivia Night - \$1,905.00

We are looking forward as a committee to continue to use the funds raised to enhance facilities around the club. We are looking to remove the old grandstand during the offseason to make room for the new ones. We are also looking to core the field in the offseason so that we can get better grass coverage and have the field looking even better for the start of the 2016 season. We are also looking to remove and replace the old fence, build a new club house (including canteen), install a hot water system to allow hot water for the showers. We also have a goal to make another junior size field for our under 6, 7 and 8s to play on. The committee is excited by the opportunities that we have to continue to improve our facilities so that all members can benefit from the hard work that has been done through our fundraising efforts!!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who committed their precious time to help out this season. Thanks to Rohan and Linda Alexander who organised the BBQ fundraisers during the season and ran the canteen. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. The canteen remains one of our best produces of funds with the canteen raising a further \$5,000.00 during the season.

Thanks to Terry and Daniel Thomson who has continued to maintain the field and do the line marking for the games, and to Shirley Thomson for all her work in ensuring our players were properly registered.

Also, a big thankyou to Nyleta Bruce, treasurer for 2015 for her efforts in ensuring all players were financial and all accounts were paid in a timely manner.

The chocolate drive was again well supported by all members of the club and we will look to do another one next season. A special mention must go to our winner for the most boxes sold, Beau Parker from our Under 9 Welsh team who sold 12 boxes and won a \$50 A-mart voucher!

Mayor Paul Pisasale, patron of the club, also continues to support the community and our club along with Councillor Bruce Casos with their generous grant approval of \$16,390.00 which was used to purchase our 4 new marquees (\$14,000.00) and to install the bollards (yet to be done) at the back of the vacant blocks that adjoin the soccer field. The bollards will assist in keeping vehicles from accessing the field and will keep our young members safer by ensuring cars cannot access this area during game days. Our marquees have already been utilised on grand final day and at some of the team breakups and look fantastic.

We also had some fantastic corporate support this season with a number of companies coming on board to sponsor jerseys. A big thankyou to the following sponsors:-

- Atomic Sports & Leisurewear
- First Response Paramedics
- Shephard Transport Equipment; and
- McNamara & Associates

We also thank Amart Sports Ipswich for their continued support of the club via their Community Kickbacks Program which helps the club purchase equipment using their kickback credits. Please continue to buy your sporting gear from Amart Sports, ensuring you let them know that you're a member of Blackstone United Dragons so that we get the kickback points for your purchase.

The junior presentation day was well supported this year despite the last minute venue shift to the Fellowship Centre at Glebe Rd Uniting Church due to the bad weather. The kids still enjoyed the jumping castle/slide and had fun playing basketball and soccer in the inflatable field. A big thank you to Pastor Peter Arnett who provided us with a great message prior to the trophies being presented to our junior players.

The senior presentation night was again held at Risson Centre, IGS Sports Fields at Brassall. It was well attended by most senior teams and a good night was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to the following people/teams who were recognised for their efforts this season and received awards:-

- Keith O'Sullivan Trophy – Awarded to the most improved player in each under 6, 7 and 8 team:-
 - Under 6 Welsh- Oliver Hague
 - Under 6 United – Ben Savage
 - Under 7 Dragons – Isaac Bruce
 - Under 8 Red – Jackson Tipple
 - Under 8 United – Nicholas Caruana
- Cooper Dore (Under 10) - Eric Jones Award - awarded to a junior player who has provided outstanding service to the club as a volunteer (not just in a playing capacity).
- William Berderow - Myra Jones Award - awarded to a player or non-player who has provided outstanding service to the club as a volunteer over an extended period of years.
- David Wright - Easterbrook Award - awarded to an outstanding coach.
- Under 10 and Under 12 - The Wooley Memorial Shield - Awarded to the most improved team.
- Nyleta Bruce - Senior Club Member Award – awarded to a senior player who has provided outstanding service to the club both on and off the field.
- Clinton Daly (Under 12); Mark Woodward (Under 9 Welsh); and - Dai Jones Shield - awarded to a player displaying outstanding sporting spirit.
- Nicholas May (Under 11s) - Jones Shield - awarded to the leading goal scorer for the season.
- Under 8 Red - Sporting Spirit Award - awarded to a junior team displaying outstanding sporting spirit.
- Senior Women Div 1 – Rev Goodacre Award – awarded to the team with the best goal average
- Players Player Awards (senior teams only):-
 - Over 30 Div 1 – Ben Lawsom
 - Over 30 Div 2 – Richard Katt

- Senior Women Div 1 – Cassandra Mohr
 - Senior Women Div 3 – Jennifer Dray
 - Senior Men Div 1 – Cameron Osborne
 - Senior Men Div 5 – Ash Fryer
 - Senior Men Div 7 – Steve Vigenser
- Cassandra Mohr - Bank of Queensland Award - awarded to a the club Players Player of the year (who polled the highest percentage votes across all senior teams).

We had another year of Queensland representatives coming out of our club with 5 players being selected to travel south to represent our state. Congratulations to the following players who were chosen in the Queensland sides:-

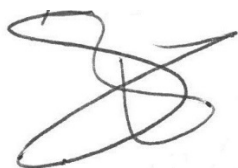
- Nikki Hubbard (Senior Women)
- Bianca Hubbard (Senior Women)
- Cameron Osborne (Senior Men)
- Leslie Thornton (Senior Men)
- John Reiser (Under 23 Men)

Congratulations to Nikki Hubbard who also took out QCSA player of the year for the Senior Women Division 1 competition. Well done Nikki!!

I am looking forward to another successful and fun season in 2016. I encourage all members/parents to become more involved in the club in 2016 so that as a community we can support each other in building a community where children and adults can enjoy playing football in a caring, supportive and encouraging environment.

Finally, I want to thank the club management committee who have spent many hours and much effort making the season run as smoothly as possible. Your support of the club and myself during the season has been exceptional. Thankyou!

Jeremy Bruce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Bruce', with a stylized, overlapping loop structure.

Club Chair 2015