



**ORANGE THUNDER TOUCH FOOTBALL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – 30 JULY 2019
WARATAHS SPORTS CLUB – 6.00PM**

1. Attendance / apologies

As per attendance sheet

2. Acceptance of previous minutes

Accepted by Joel Begnell, seconded by Cathy Goodlock

3. Business arising from previous minutes

Nil

4. Reports

a. Presidents Report

Thanks to the committee; very hard season was handled in a professional manner. Waratahs upgrade with awning and continue to stress to Waratahs the importance of field lighting. We have had a huge increase on the amount of players that have represented at higher level.

Thanks to Joel Begnell and Hayden Gibbs O'Neill for all they have done in junior ranks. Well done to all referees and those who received upgrades, without them we would not have games.

Local competition – our numbers have been consistent however last season seen a huge spike in the number of women's teams, we also had a huge number of junior teams with over 100 junior teams

b. Treasurers Report

Financial report attached. Treasurer provided detailed report outlining major expenditure, continuing to move to being a cashless club, continuing audit processes and confirming a strong financial position overall.

c. Administrators Report

2018/19 was another successful season. We had another increase in our mini teams and playing numbers from season 2017/18 with an extra 9 teams and 106 players. Our Junior Team numbers were exactly the same as the previous season, however we had an extra 20 registered players.

We received a lot of positive feedback in regards to the gala day that was held after the mini season for trying to make up for the amount of washed out games that occurred during our mini competition this season. We will be holding another touch of fun round on the final round of our mini competition this year.

Mixed team numbers were 3 less than season 2017/18 with 39 less players. Men's teams were up 7 teams with 79 extra players. Women's teams were down just 2 with 12 less players. In total this saw season 2018/19 with an extra 2 teams and 28 players on the previous season.

This season we also tried something new in having 10mins in between senior games instead of the previous 5mins, this worked really well with getting our duty referees and badged referees up to the shed to collect their next match card and down to the next game to start on time. I am looking forward to another fantastic season and hopefully with a lot of new faces on our committee we can get some great new ideas and keep moving forward.

d. Representative Report

The 2018-19 season was arguably one of the most successful for our club in relation to representative touch football. Our junior representative program saw Orange Thunder field a team in all divisions, being Boys and Girls from U8 to U18, as well as a development team in Boys U12.

These teams first competed at Don Green Western Junior Championships in Mudgee. All main teams made the grand final in all divisions, with 11 of 12 teams being crowned champions of their division. Not surprisingly our club won the Club Championship for the tournament. Next these teams competed at Renegades Gala Day in Narrabeen, which promising results. Then the next day, all teams competed at Central Coast Junior Championships in Gosford. This tournament saw our club make 9 of 12 grand finals, with 5 of these teams being crowned champions of their division. Again our club won the Club Championship for the tournament.

In the new year, these teams competed at Peter Wilson Junior Championships in Nelson Bay, which saw our club make 5 of 12 grand finals, with the Girls U8 being crowned champions of their division. Our club won the Club Championship, taking a three-peat of all Hornets regional junior tournaments. These teams then went to Wagga Wagga to compete in the Junior State Cup Southern Conference, which was the first year of the tournament being split into Northern and Southern Conferences. All 13 teams qualified for the round of 16 matches, with 5 teams making the grand final but unfortunately all finished runners up. Our club qualified for the Junior State Cup Finals in 10 of 12 divisions, as well as being crowned Club Champions for the tournament – giving our club 4 Club Championships for the junior representative season.

The junior representative season culminated with Junior State Cup Finals in Wollongong, which saw the top 8 teams from Northern and Southern Conferences compete. Against some quality opposition, our club ended the tournament with Boys U10 and Girls U16 finishing Top 4 in NSW, with a further 3 teams finishing in Top 8 in NSW. Our Girls U12 and Girls U16 teams were finalists for Sporting Team of the Year at the Orange Sports Awards.

These amazing performances by our junior players resulted in the largest contingent of players being selected in the Hunter Western Hornets squads, with 38 players selected, in age

divisions Boys and Girls U12 to U18. From these squads, 19 players were selected to represent Hunter Western Hornets at the NSW Touch Junior Regionals which was held in Orange. Along with these regional club representatives, our junior players flourished at regional level and higher within the school system, with no less than 50 players selected in various public, catholic and independent system regional school touch teams, at primary and high school level. Some notable mentions are to Hailey Prestwidge (NSWCHS), Sophie Banks and Hope Gibson (NSWCCC) who gained state school selection.

Our senior representative program saw our club enter teams into the Vawdon Cup competition for the first time, with a Boys and Girls Youth League team competing. Both teams finished the competition in 3rd place, a great result for their first time in the weekly competition. Our club entered two teams, Mixed Seniors and Mixed Masters, to Hornets Championships held in Nelson Bay. The Mixed Seniors were semi finalists and Mixed Masters were champions of their division defeating Newcastle in the grand final.

Two players represented Hunter Western Hornets at the 2019 National Touch League in Coffs Harbour, with Wayne Hill playing for Mens 40s and Cathy Goodlock playing for Womens 45s. Along with these wonderful representative achievements at a junior and senior level, our club also continued it's work in the touch development area, holding a number of clinics and academies during the year.

Our junior representative teams were treated to a visit from the Australian Mixed Open touch team, which held a training camp in Orange. The Australian players ran a touch clinic with our junior players and no doubt our players learnt a few things from their interaction with these elite touch players. Our club ran various touch academies for junior aged players, ranging from our elite academy to our little lightning academy which targets touch skill development for mini touch players. In addition to these our club hosted a mini touch clinic which was kindly donated to us by one of our club parents, which was conducted by Australian Jillaroos star Ruan Sims.

Overall, these achievements by our representative players and teams, along with our clubs continued work in the touch development space, see our club now well and truly on the map in terms of representative touch.

e. Referees Report

Thank you to all referees for their efforts over the past year, was a successful year. A number of referees received upgrades, congrats to those referees. Some referees attended events like Junior Regionals, National Touch League.

Local competition referees did extremely well, good numbers for local games. A number of younger and newer referees coming through the ranks now. Thank you to all who helped out with local competition nights.

5. Election of 2019-2020 committee

a. President

- i. Nomination from Cathy Goodlock. Voted and approved.

- b. Vice President
 - i. Nomination from Michelle Prestiwidge. Voted and approved.
- c. Secretary
 - i. Nomination from Daryl Cole. Voted and approved.
- d. Treasurer
 - i. Nomination from Jo Banks. Voted and approved.
- e. Administrator
 - i. Nomination from Tracee Livingstone. Voted and approved.
- f. Member Protection Information Officer
 - i. Nomination from Scott Maunder. Voted and approved.
- g. Representative Director
 - i. Nomination from Joel Begnell. Voted and approved.
- h. Representative Assistant
 - i. Nomination from Mitch Leonard, Wayne Hill. Voted and approved.
- i. Referee Director
 - i. Nomination from Rebecca Rogers. Voted and approved.
- j. Referee Assistant
 - i. Nomination from Aiden Leonard. Voted and approved.
- k. Grants & Sponsorship Officer
 - i. Nil nominations
- l. Community Engagement Officer
 - i. Nil nominations
- m. Events & Marketing Officer
 - i. Nomination from Jessica Hannan. Voted and approved.
- n. Judiciary Panel
 - i. Nomination from Mark Waters, Troy Sweeting, David Howe. Voted and approved.
- o. Youth Advisory Group
 - i. Nominations from Jackson Hill, Ella Barrett, Sophie Banks, Ryan Banks. Voted and approved.
- p. General Committee
 - i. Nomination from Mark Waters, Troy Sweeting, Naomii Barrett, Karissa Roberts, Casey Gibson. Voted and approved.

6. General Business

Nil

7. Close of meeting

7.25pm