

## **President's Report February 2009**

The competition season is now well underway and our Under 14s, U18s and U20s have already competed in the NSW Club Championships. Our teams are now preparing for the final charge to the line in the Sydney Metropolitan Competition, National League, State and Australian Club Championships.

Congratulations to all who have prepared the teams and to those who have participated in the management and development of our Club's activities.

Coming up are some very important events namely our Sportsman's Lunch in May, designed to raise the required funds that underpin our National League Programs; the hosting of the NSW U16 Girls Club Championships at the University of Wollongong, again raising funds for our Academy Programs; our Presentation & Awards Night, around the first or second week of June; and our Annual General Meeting in July or August. Calendar dates are still to be finalized.

In preparation for these events and to improve the continuity of our programs into the Winter & Spring Seasons can I ask all coaches, managers and officials to begin to prepare their reports, draft their forward plans, and state their intentions and availability to the relevant Program Vice Presidents within the next two weeks?

Some time ago the Management Committee (now called the Executive Committee or EXCO) reviewed our priorities and came up with Management and Communications as priority #1. This remains our top priority and I wish to remind all members that we have a structure that has been designed to support and promote these critical functions.

As a quick overview, we have an Executive Committee that sets the overall direction of the Club and reviews our programs and activities

on a regular basis. Each person on EXCO has a specific responsibility for either a program area or a specific function. These roles and functions and who is responsible for them can also be accessed via our Website.

Then reporting to the Program Managers of National League, The Academy, Metropolitan Grade and Juniors are support teams (determined by the Program Managers / Vice Presidents) that include the team coaches managers, officials and the parent body / supporters. The role and profile of the Team Managers needs to be raised as their role is critical to the communications imperative.

Each member of EXCO has the ability to structure their own support team as they see fit and present their needs and wants to EXCO for ratification. Each is then responsible for the implementation of their program of activity.

In this way we hope to cut down on time consuming and energy sapping activities and hone in on productive and enjoyable interaction.

However, there is a noted trend across the sporting sector whereby voluntary participation in the organization of community sporting clubs is declining and we are no exception. Whilst we have considerable plans to promote our Club and the sport in our region, we still have some key gaps in critical positions and this makes it difficult to improve the quality of our programming and service delivery.

Could I ask all to reflect on how you might be able to assist the Club in a suitable way? If you are willing and able to help, please contact the relevant EXCO member or myself.

In addition, I encourage all team coaches, managers, officials and EXCO members to write regular reports and send them to our Club

Secretary, Cate Lauricella and as required for publication, to our Web Master, Dick Davies.

Their contact details are on our Website at [www.cronullawaterpolo.com.au](http://www.cronullawaterpolo.com.au)

Last but not least, I have some extremely important & exciting news to convey in the very near future but I await formal confirmation first. What a tease!

In the Spirit of Water Polo

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