

BASKETBALL ACT

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



BASKETBALL ACT



Basketball ACT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land throughout the Australian Capital Territory and pays respect to their Elders past and present. We are respectful of the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples from all the Aboriginal Nations.

Basketball ACT would like to acknowledge and recognise our Life Members, for their contribution to the game in the Canberra region.

Colin Alexander

Ray Brady

Ian Ellis

Brian Franklin

Peter Higginson

Max Landy

Barbara Lodding

Joe Marzano

Rodney Peters

Terry Ryan

Peter Baskett

Errol Cohen

Gary Evans

Pam Grotegoed

Natalie Hurst

Jerry Lee

Herb McEachin

Richard Nesbitt

Alan Roberts

Don Withers

Paul Bell

Tony Cotton

Stephen Fox

Ron Harvey

Phill Kelley

Marlene Leonard

Kel McGrath

Graham Owen

Ros Roberts

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BASKETBALL ACT ***AS @ 30 SEPTEMBER 2020***

Board of Directors

President:	Allan Yates
Vice President:	John Solomon
Treasurer:	Glenn Cummings
Directors:	Shane Lowndes Christine Higginson Alice Coddington Simon Cann-Evans

Basketball ACT Staff

Chief Executive Officer: David Simpson
General Manager - Operations: Ken Kennedy
Finance Officer: Berniece Palat
Development Manager: Terry Johnson
High Performance and Coaching: Phil Brown
Performance Programs Administrator: Barb Turner
Competitions Manager: Sarah Skidmore
Competitions Officer: Tanya Sharp
Administration Officers: Michelle Mellier and Shannon Brown
Communications and Media Officer: David Lane

Full Member Clubs & Schools

Belconnen Ramblers, Canberra City Stallions, Ginninderra Rats, Gungahlin Flames,
Norths Basketball Club, Australian National University (ANU) Basketball Club
Queanbeyan Roadrunners, Tuggeranong Southern Cross, Tuggeranong Vikings,
Weston Creek Woden Dodgers, Warriors Basketball Club, Wests Basketball Club
Burgmann Anglican School, Canberra Girls Grammar School, Canberra
Grammar School, Daramalan College, Marist College Canberra,
Radford College, St Edmunds College

Associate Member Clubs & Schools

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA), Orana Steiner School, Merici College,
Erindale College

PRESIDENTS REPORT

ALLAN YATES

In a year unlike any other, Basketball ACT (BACT) has improved its position and is well placed to move the sport forward in the ACT and surrounding areas. Both the Board and staff at BACT have been stabilised and delivering professional services to our member clubs, teams, players and supporters.

While COVID-19 disrupted competitions, representative programs and other activity across all sports, BACT was able to trade through 2020 keeping staff intact and moving quickly to return to sport as COVID health restrictions were lifted. This was a testament to the professionalism of the staff and what I believe are improved relations between the members and the organisation after some years of disruption.

BACT's professionalism and performance were recognised by the ACT Government and the sport was highlighted as a model for other ACT sporting organisations.

Congratulations and thanks must go the CEO David Simpson, his staff and the BACT members. With more than 9,000 registered players and a return to representative programs cancelled or disrupted during 2020, BACT is now well placed to move forward in its core activities.

Our ongoing discussions with the ACT Government to secure additional court space through an extension of Belconnen Basketball Stadium have been unsuccessful. Accordingly, BACT is now seeking to get some control over Block 16, immediately above the Stadium, so we can progress our efforts to get additional courts in Canberra. BACT is at capacity in terms of court space to run our competitions and programs so it is vital we have some control of basketball's future activity. I would like to thank members of BACT's Facilities Committee for their work and expertise.

As part of these ongoing discussions around the extensions to Belconnen, the ACT Government also funded a review of BACT's governance. The review made the following conclusion: the BACT Board is a well-functioning team. It has faced some significant challenges over recent years and at least within this review demonstrated an excellent working culture when faced with the unprecedented situation of a pandemic lockdown.



The reactivated Competition Committee has also been delivering for our members, with a new competition format and by-laws among those activities progressed. Thank you to those Committee members as well.

I would like to thank CEO David Simpson for his professionalism and leadership. David has been in the CEO chair (which had been revolving for some years) and he has had a marked impact on BACT's operations and service delivery. The BACT staff are delivering professional services to our members and stakeholders and that is being recognised both inside and outside the Association. Congratulations.

The BACT Board now comprises a mix of directors with a basketball background and professionals with skills to support basketball activities both on and off the court. I would like to thank board members for their support across a range of areas in and around our basketball activity.

Finally, a thank you to BACT's members and stakeholders. 2020 was a watershed year for the Australian community and despite that, basketball is well positioned to move forward in coming years as a professional organisation and a leader in the Canberra sporting landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to be President of BACT.

CEO REPORT

DAVID SIMPSON



Unfortunately 2019-20 was not the year we were expecting. In a year that started with great excitement and promise, in the blink of an eye 2019-20 quickly shifted to one of the most challenging periods in the organisations history. Impacted initially by bushfires and smoke, then hail and rain events, and culminating with a pandemic that ultimately resulted in the shut down of all of the organisations programs, competitions and operations; contingency planning, damage control and risk management typically took precedence over the delivery of programs and competitions.

That said, with all the negativity that came from all of these challenges, Basketball ACT, with the support of our members, weathered all storms. Throughout all of these various challenges, I would like to acknowledge how heartened I have been by the support of all of our clubs, as well as the resilience of the entire basketball community. Whilst many other sports simply shut down and went into hibernation, the basketball community remained engaged, positive and rallied together which made the return to activity so much easier.

Financially the Treasurers report and financial statements will demonstrate that Basketball ACT has traversed the challenges of 2019-20 without significant financial impact. The implementation of a range of organisational austerity measures to cut back to bare essentials enabled the organisation to report a small surplus result for the financial year. As with many other organisations Basketball ACT was also able to secure Federal Government support through the JobKeeper program which supported all permanent staff and a range of long term casual staff throughout the period of shut down.

Operationally the silver lining for Basketball ACT was that we were able to bring forward a range of facility upgrades for Belconnen while the stadium was mandatorily shut down to public access, and hence not impacting competitions or programs. This included the resurfacing of all courts damaged by the January hail storm, rebuilding of the grandstand, painting throughout and a general refresh all round which appears to have been well received by members on their return. Looking forward the continual improvement of the stadium and gaining access to new high quality facilities remain key priorities as we head into 2021 and beyond.

Emerging from COVID I cannot thank our member clubs enough for the understanding and support shown, particularly towards staff, as we put in place many very restrictive protocols necessary for the safe restart of activity. Understandably there were still challenges not least the restrictions on spectator numbers and the high levels of hygiene protocols, however in general the community were understanding and compliant, making the transition through each stage relatively pain free.

Despite the interruptions, our competitions and development programs continued to remain strong; with the hiatus of four months doing nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of our junior and senior members. Pre COVID our junior competitions had increased for the third successive year and looked set to increase again when operations were shut down in March 2020. On return whilst team numbers dropped slightly, one entire school club was not able to return due to their own COVID guidelines which took us below the previous years mark. Their involvement would have seen us on par with the prior year. Further with the return to activity many new players became involved in our many learn to play or junior development programs to the point where many programs had to be capped due to capacity limits.

And whilst a short interim senior competitions saw a somewhat guarded return to basketball for our senior players, the 2020-21 Summer competition has seen a significant spike of over 23% in team numbers.

CEO REPORT

(CONTINUED)

Most impacted were our performance programs where the vast majority of programs needed to be cancelled due to interstate travel restrictions and concerns, including the under 14, 16 and 18 Australian Junior Championships, and the NSW Waratah league which was cancelled after just a couple of rounds.

As we move into 2021 and beyond we will continue to build off our recent successes and continue to grow and enhance the sport for all of our members and the wider community. Looking forward we will review our strategic direction following the Annual General Meeting to ensure we are continuing to work in the best interests of our members and for the betterment of the sport. We will also continue to lobby Government for increased facility access and continue to push for the expansion of our own facility in Belconnen; and we will continue to seek external support to try and keep basketball as affordable as possible.

FACILITIES REPORT

Amid the most testing of years for facilities we have finished 2020 in a stronger position. Following the smoke, hail, bushfires, and rains, the COVID-19 shutdown period allowed us to give the Belconnen Stadium a significant makeover ahead of returning to on-court action. From painting to roof maintenance, gardening to new courts, BACT would like to thank all the trades people and volunteers who made it possible. The roof fixes should keep us watertight for years to come and the four resurfaced indoor courts are a joy to play on.

To get our game back up and running following the COVID-19 shutdown we needed players, officials, and spectators to work with us to implement COVID safe practices. This meant queuing outside in the cold of winter and heat of summer, reducing on court warm-ups, limiting spectators, and a lot of patience. The fantastic practices and tolerance of the basketball community allowed us to return to the new normal fast and increase spectator numbers as time went by and consistent with ACT Health advice.

The basketball community's leadership in safe practices was acknowledged by the ACT Health Minister, especially our early adoption and usage of the Check In CBR app.

In closing I would like to acknowledge and thank all of our volunteers who dedicate an incredible amount of time and effort every week to keep our sport going. The sport of basketball would not be what it is today without the countless hours that have been invested by so many people at all levels of the sport.

My sincere thanks and gratitude also to all members of the Basketball ACT Board, who have provided sage guidance and support throughout the last twelve months, ensuring a level headed and well considered approach to all of the challenges we have faced.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the Basketball ACT staff for their incredible patience, hard work and dedication through very trying times. The contribution that all staff have made throughout this last 12 months cannot be understated and has ensured that we emerged in a strong position to build in future years.

Despite the challenges that the last financial year has thrown up, I am incredibly proud of everything we were able to achieve and I look forward to an even stronger 2021.

As excellent as we have been to date, we need to keep it up for 2021 – please stay home if you feel unwell and get tested, keep using the Check In CBR app, maintain good hand hygiene, and keep your distance at the courts. With good practices we can do our bit to keep basketball open.

Basketball continues to grow in popularity and Canberra's population continues to grow.

This year BACT has worked with many facility providers and schools to provide court access for competitions and training. A big thank you to all court providers who have worked with us on an ongoing basis and those who have worked with us on an ad hoc basis when we have had an urgent need. We continue to talk with a range of providers and stakeholders to secure ongoing access to good quality courts for competitions and training.



TREASURER'S REPORT

GLENN CUMMINGS

For the year ending 30 September 2020, Basketball ACT (BACT) reports a surplus of \$91,667 on total revenue of \$2,833,595 and net assets of \$5,101,166.

Total Revenue for the 2020 financial year of \$2,833,595 (2019: \$3,115,532) represents a decrease of 9.1%. Competitions revenue of \$1,692,174 in 2020 represented approximately 60% of total revenue.

A decrease in Competition revenue of 24% from \$2,235,133 in 2019 to \$1,692,174 in 2020 had a significant impact on the decrease in revenue overall. This was offset to a degree by BACT being eligible for the Federal Government's pandemic support program Jobkeeper (\$192,000), increased ACT Government grants of \$233,733 (2019: \$37,500) and increased support from Basketball Australia of \$57,503 (2019: \$27,357).

Total expenditure for the 2020 financial year was \$2,741,928 (2019: \$3,372,315); a decrease of 18.7%. The suspension of competitions due to the coronavirus pandemic resulted in significant cost savings on items such as external court hire, referee expenses, and Waratah League costs. These savings are offset to a degree by increased maintenance costs as BACT used the downtime whilst the courts were not in use to bring forward scheduled maintenance. BACT maintained a consistent level of staffing across the year.

Despite the incredibly difficult operating environment faced in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, BACT reports an operating surplus of \$91,667 (2019: \$256,783 loss).

The cash position as at 30 September 2020 was \$674,985 an increase of \$164,223 from the same time in 2019. Net Assets as at 30 September 2020 are \$5,101,166 (2019: \$5,009,883).

Although Net Assets has not changed greatly year on year, as part of a broader tightening of internal financial controls management has undertaken significant efforts to clean up outstanding payables, resulting in a decrease in trade debtors of \$387,270 this financial year.

This is offset by a corresponding decrease in creditors due to the implementation of tighter credit policies, greater management focus on debt collection, and a \$251,699 decrease in Competition Fees Received in Advance due to the impact on the pandemic on the timing of seasons.

The staff and Board of BACT recognise that the strength of our competitions and basketball more broadly in the ACT relies on having strong, stable basketball clubs. We are committed to offering continued support to member clubs, particularly with regards to administration, and financial systems and processes to ensure the ongoing strength of our members.

In line with a motion at the Annual General Meeting, BACT undertook a competitive tender process for the audit of its annual accounts. As a result, BACT has changed auditors with Hardwicks completing the 2020 annual audit of our accounts. We are pleased to advise Hardwicks have stated the Financial Statements represent a true and fair view of the financial position of Basketball ACT for 2019/20 financial year.

COMPETITIONS REPORT

SARAH SKIDMORE

2020 was a challenging year across the board for all competitions.

With fires and hail interrupting competitions early in the year followed by COVID-19 stopping everything for five months.

The 2019/2020 Summer season was stopped leading into the final two rounds. The Winter season then commenced in July running until December for Juniors and Premier League competitions.

Senior Social wrapped up in October, so it could align back with the current Summer and Winter structure. While Summer Slam, Summer Open and all school competitions were cancelled for 2020.

The Ron Harvey Cup was held in 2020, and introduced a mixed division alongside the men's division for the first time. In 2020, 27 teams were entered across both divisions, which is a record number of teams for this event.

Although basketball was missed by many during COVID-19 shutdown, the Competitions Committee were able to continue planning for the 2021 Junior Winter Season. The new structure will see juniors play a longer season over Winter and a shorter season over Summer, allowing for 3x3 events to continue to grow over the Summer period.

The 2020 Winter season saw a decrease in the number of junior and senior teams while Premier League remained the same.



Basketball ACT Registered Members

2019/2020 Summer Registered Members

Junior Male - 2934

Junior Female - 1568

Senior Male - 866

Senior Female - 344

2020 Winter Registered Members

Junior Male - 1875

Junior Female - 1005

Senior Male - 838

Senior Female - 330



COMPETITIONS REPORT

(CONTINUED)

2020 Winter Junior Division 1 Champions

U12 Boys - Marist College

U12 Girls - Canberra City Stallions

U14 Boys - Ginninderra Rats

U14 Girls - Queanbeyan Roadrunners

U16 Boys - Norths

U16 Girls - Ginninderra Rats

U19 Boys - Tuggeranong Vikings

U19 Girls - Ginninderra Rats

Cliff Ellis Memorial Shield

1st - Ginninderra Rats

2nd - Tuggeranong Southern Cross

3rd - Marist College



Senior Premier League Champions and Award Winners

Premier 1

Champions

Most Valuable Player

Leading Scorer

Defensive Player of the Year

Coach of the Year

Men

Vikings

Dhal Fieg (Norths)

Dhal Fieg (Norths)

Shaun Mills (Vikings)

Darryl Durham (Norths)

Women

Weston Creek Woden Dodgers

Elizabeth Tonks (Wests)

Mikala Williams (Wests)

Elizabeth Tonks (Wests)

Kate Tominac (Wests)



Premier 2

Champions

Most Valuable Player

Leading Scorer

Defensive Player of the Year

Coach of the Year

Men

Wests

Jon Harris (Wests)

Bryn Williams (ANU)

Jack Muston (Wests)

Michael Lloyd (Vikings)

Women

Ginninderra Rats

Nalani Makunde (Norths)

Nalani Makunde (Norths)

Medeline Wallace (Norths)

Remy Szabo (Stallions)

REFEREES REPORT

Referee Management Team

Marlene Leonard
Ethan Tulk
April Croft
Alex Robinson

Support Staff

Hayden Cochrane
Bec Murphy

The year of 2020 was certainly an unexpected one. However, despite the global pandemic and the challenges COVID-19 brought, we have still seen considerable growth and achievements in our referee department.

The referee department at Basketball ACT would like to extend its thanks to all referee's, referee coaches, score table officials and statisticians who have contributed to the smooth-running of our competitions.

Although the U14, U16 and U18 Australian Junior Championships were cancelled due to COVID-19, the U20's Australian Junior Championship and Ivor Burge National Championship was still held at the beginning of the year. ACT referees April Croft, Jadon Semenas and Jackson Tomas represented the ACT in the Ivor Burge National Championship.

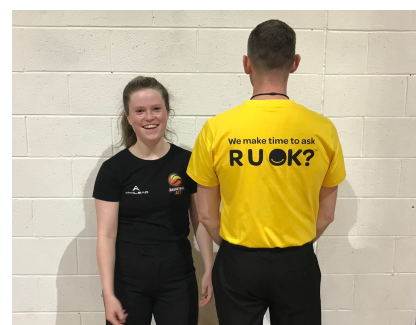
During that week, Jackson Tomas received the gold medal women's Ivor Burge grand final game. Ethan Tulk represented the ACT as a referee at the U20's Australian Junior Championship.

Basketball ACT also increased their referee coverage for our senior competitions by focusing on the recruitment of senior officials by holding a senior referee course and focusing on the development of our current senior referees.

The referees on our senior premier league and development panels have also grown, with new members of each panel being introduced and appointed to our premier division games. This has also seen an increase in coverage and the standard of officiating on our A Grade games.

Jack Taylor, ACT's FIBA international referee license holder, represented our association at the WNBL hub held in Queensland in December 2020. Jack was then appointed the WNBL grand final game, rewarding him for his remarkable achievement. This was his second grand final appointment for the WNBL.

Basketball ACT would like to express their gratitude towards the outgoing Referee Management Team who have had a great impact on the referee program and continue to be great mentors to our upcoming officials.



DEVELOPMENT REPORT

TERRY JOHNSON



The Futures program provides an opportunity to further develop children for the future, so they are more prepared to trial for the Under 12 or Under 14 programs. The implementation of this program has increased the base from 80 to 120 participants.

BACT have expanded and diversified the existing school program to non-sporting schools. This allows non-sporting schools to participate, even though they are not affiliated with the National Sporting Schools program.

2020 has been an interesting and challenging year with the COVID-19 pandemic, however in the Development Department we have experienced increases in participation numbers, and the biggest highlights are the implementation two new key programs, Level Up and Futures Programs.

Aimed at increasing interest and participation across the ACT community, BACT teamed up with several local community councils during 2020 to hold numerous 3x3 Community Hustle events.

The Development Department consists of grass roots programs including Aussie Hoops, 8 and Under and Pink Stars programs. We are delighted to see increased participation numbers of over 35%, across all grass roots programs.

Unfortunately, during the COVID-19 pandemic, BACT were unable to visit retirement villages and nursing homes to implement our Walking Basketball Program, however BACT have engaged with two venues who are interested in us to conduct these programs during 2021.

Basketball ACT's School Holiday Camps were a comeback program during 2020 and included more than 100+ participants.

Following a High-Performance Program review, the Under 12 Representative Program moved from the High-Performance Department, into the Development area which was a positive outcome.

To accommodate the overall increase in participation numbers, we were also able to increase our coach numbers, which provided greater mentoring across the expanded base.

To expand our base of the representative pyramid the Futures Program was implemented which caters for fringe basketballers in the representative programs.



HIGH PERFORMANCE REPORT

PHIL BROWN

High Performance Committee Members

Michelle Hocking (Chairperson)

Debbie Cook

Barry Barnes

Shane Lowndes

Phil Brown

Notable Highlights, Achievements and Initiatives in 2020

- An independent review and report were submitted to the BACT Board including a number of key recommendations. A new BACT High Performance Plan was created based on the HP review report.
- Key initiatives include the creation of a Canberra Nationals Academy to underpin the Nationals Program and further strengthen the female high performance pathway; the transition of the U12 & U14 Canberra representative programs to the BACT Development area of the organisation; increasing athletic development (strength & conditioning) services to NITP athletes and increasing high performance coaching development opportunities.
- U16 Men's Head Coach being accepted into Basketball Australia's 'Emerging Coaches Initiative' Program.
- Alex Toohey & Bowyn Beatty selected to the Basketball Australia National Performance Camp
- ACT Ivor Burge Men achieved a Bronze Medal whilst the Women achieved a 4th Placing at the IB National Championships.
- Canberra Nationals players Abby Cubillo & Shakera Reilly win 2019/20 WNBL Championship with UC Canberra Capitals
- Bowyn Beatty & Alex Toohey selected to U16 National Team for FIBA U17 Asia Championships
- A number of high performance policies and documents were updated including the Head Coaches & Managers Handbook. A BACT Travel Policy and associated Travel Guidelines Booklet were created to support the high performance programs.



The Basketball ACT High Performance Committee (HPC) establishes the strategic direction and policies for the ACT High Performance Programs. This includes the appointment of Coaches and Managers to all programs, annual reviews of each program and providing support for the ongoing professional development of coaches from the U12 & U14 Boys and Girls Canberra Representative, ACT U16, U18 & U20 Junior State Representative Programs through to the senior Canberra Gunners, Gunners Academy and Canberra Nationals Teams.

The High Performance Programs were significantly disrupted in 2020 due to COVID-19 resulting in the programs ceasing from 15th March through to 1st July. Basketball Australia's U16 and U18 Australian Junior Championships were cancelled, as was the U14 Australian Junior Club Championships.

In addition, Basketball ACT withdrew all Canberra representative junior teams from the Basketball NSW Southern Junior League, and the Canberra Gunners, Gunners Academy and Canberra Nationals from the Waratah Senior Leagues after participating in the first round of matches.

Through the COVID lockdown the junior representative coaches delivered Zoom workouts to athletes and from 1st July a return to modified squad trainings began with a return to domestic club basketball games resuming in late July.

2020 WARATAH LEAGUE

SQUADS



1 - Dhal Fieg
2 - Eric McAlister
3 - Glenn Morison
5 - Jack Bartholomeusz
6 - Tom Commins
7 - Shaun Mills
8 - James Toohey
9 - Pietro Badalassi
10 - Adam Gavranich
12 - Iain Morison
13 - Darcy Malone
14 - Nick Jackson
21 - Mitch Brown

Coach - Tony Plunkett
Asst Coach - Andrew Coulter
Asst Coach - Terry Johnson
Manager - Barb Turner

4 - Caitlyn Rowe
5 - Abby Cubillo
6 - Carlie Smith
7 - Hannah Kaser
9 - Maddy Wheatley
10 - Sarah McAppion
11 - Shakera Reilly
13 - Abbie Ketels
21 - Abby Solway
23 - Lizzie Tonks
24 - Kris Langhorn
RSM* - Emmy Clarke
RSM* - Hayley McDonald
RSM* - Yar Mayen

Coach - Natalie Hurst
Asst Coach - Christine Higginson
Asst Coach - Shane Wallace
Manager - Sophie New

(*Rotating Squad Member)



Basketball ACT would like to acknowledge and recognise our Corporate Partners and Sponsors, for their support of the game in the Canberra region.

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www.basketballact.com.au