# **Queensland Lacrosse Association Inc**



**Strategic Plan 2017 – 2019** 

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The 2017 – 2019 Queensland Lacrosse Association Inc (QLA) Strategic Plan seeks to continue the growth and development of the sport of lacrosse within Queensland and follows on from the completion of the 2014 – 2016 strategic plan. A component of the strategic planning was to review the performance of QLA against the key result areas adopted within the 2014 – 2016 strategic plan. This review included all areas of the previous strategic plan. From this review, the key result areas have been modified to key pillar areas to reflect the changing dynamics of the organization and to align with Australian Lacrosse Association's (ALA) strategic plan while maintaining a focus on the core of the sport relating to participation, events, competitions, marketing and promotion with an aim to greater increase the awareness of the sport and build the capacity of the organization to reflect a growing popularity within the general community.

The enclosed plan will set out the 2017 – 2019 vision, mission and values of the organization and key pillar areas broken down into endorsed sub categories, outcomes, broad strategies, time frames and included for this plan is a review and report to allow for the membership to gauge the progress of the plan and comment as needed.

The strategic plan was compiled based on the foundation set in the 2014 -2016 strategic plan, the ALA's Strategy for Lacrosse in Australia 2015-2018<sup>1</sup>, and in conjunction with the New South Wales Lacrosse League. A draft strategic plan was then submitted to the members of the management committee for review and their input. A forum was held to consider and incorporate the feedback from the Management committee and additional members of the organisation to finalise this strategy.

The focus of this strategic plan is to build on the outcomes achieved through the 2014 – 2016 plan cycle with a key emphasis being placed on creating a more consistent competition and growing member participation in the lacrosse community.

QLA will deliver on the outcomes agreed upon within the key pillar areas of the 2017 – 2019 strategic plan which is a manageable document with achievable outcomes that enhance and develop the sport of lacrosse within Queensland. Previously QLA was 'United in the challenge ahead', now, they will 'Prevail in the challenge ahead'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://lacrosse.com.au/media/146469/strategy-for-lacrosse-in-australia-2015-2018.pdf</u>.

### Vision, Mission, and Values

#### VISION

Provide lacrosse for the enjoyment and development of everyone at all levels of participation.

#### MISSION

To be recognised as a successful state sporting organization through careful planning, management and development that delivers an increased participation in and greater awareness of the sport of lacrosse throughout Queensland. To maintain ongoing support from the national sporting organisation to create an increase pathways to national success

#### VALUES

To provide a socially inclusive community focused sporting participation activity that encourages healthy, fun, safe and drug free participation for all players, coaches, officials and volunteers involved in the sport of lacrosse.

## Methodology

The QLA's strategic plan for 2017 to 2019 was designed to align with the ALA's Strategy for Lacrosse 2015 to 2018 and utilised their key pillar framework. The QLA has identified they key pillars required to achieve our vision, mission, and values over the next three years. These pillars are defined below and detailed in the preceding sections.

Pillars of Lacrosse	Build the organisation	Develop the best people	Provide opportunities to play lacrosse in Queensland	Marketing and Media	Provide opportunities to showcase our skill
Description	<ul> <li>Governance and Management</li> <li>Policy and procedure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Players</li> <li>Coaches</li> <li>Officials,</li> <li>Administrators,</li> <li>Volunteers</li> <li>Staff</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Club based competitions</li> <li>New participation programs</li> <li>School, tertiary, social competitions</li> <li>Learn Lacrosse program</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Media</li> <li>Marketing</li> <li>Promotion</li> <li>Development of the Queensland Lacrosse "Brand"</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>National competitions</li> <li>International competitions</li> </ul>
Performance Measures through to 2019	<ul> <li>Efficient, effective, transparent governance structure</li> <li>Maintain good financial standing</li> <li>Effective and utilised sub-committees</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased participation at all levels of lacrosse</li> <li>Higher skilled lacrosse in Queensland</li> <li>Head official role defined and utilised</li> <li>Increase in accredited coaches</li> <li>Increase in accredited officials</li> <li>Efficient and organised administration of events</li> <li>Awards for members</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Active online presence</li> <li>Promotional materials</li> <li>Streaming lacrosse games on-line</li> <li>Active media contacts</li> <li>Team apparel</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased National and International participation for members</li> </ul>

## Pillar 1 – Build the organisation

#### Purpose:

Within the pillar area of **Building the organisation**, QLA will continue to deliver strong leadership through careful planning and management that includes input from all stakeholders. Having developed a strong management structure, the goals to be achieved through the next strategic plan will be to maintain this management and enhance the capacity of the organization to provide more support to all involved within the sport. The key areas of focus are:

- Board and Management Committee
- Policy and Procedure

### **1.1 Board and Management Committee**

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
	Effective current	Management committee to continually review constitution effectiveness.	Ongoing
	constitution.	<ul> <li>Develop amendments to constitution if required.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>As necessary</li> </ul>
1.1.1 Constitution		• Engage professional assistance (if required).	<ul> <li>If necessary</li> </ul>
		Conduct member meetings to inform and advise on suggested amendments to	<ul> <li>As required</li> </ul>
		constitution.	
1.1.2 Governance	Effective and organised	Create Sub-Committees	• As required
Structure and Design	management structure.	• Review current management structure and modify if required.	• 2017 and ongoing
Structure and Design		Review, amend and/or create management committee job descriptions.	Annually
	Effective and well	• Management Committee to continually review By-Laws effectiveness and update as	• Q1 2017 and
1.1.3 By-Laws	developed by-laws	necessary	ongoing
		Management committee draft and define responsibilities of the Sub-committees	<ul> <li>As required</li> </ul>
	Improved administrative	• Conduct review of current administration procedures to incorporate the use of	• January 2017 and
	services to all	online technology for areas such as membership, newsletters, correspondence and	ongoing
	stakeholders.	payments	
1.1.4 Administration		Collate and provide best practices currently being implemented in the clubs to	• January 2017 and
		other clubs to share learnings and improve efficiencies	ongoing
		• Recruit, empower, and learn from people with high skill and experience in lacrosse	Ongoing
		administration	

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
1.1.5 Communication	Improved levels of communication to all stakeholders	<ul> <li>Source training and up-skilling courses and programs to improve administration delivery and efficiency to all stakeholders.</li> <li>Continue to remain at the forefront of online communication with members through embracing and implementing enhanced online communication channels</li> <li>Reviewing the current website to create a more user friendly site and embracing new forms of online communication with members</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Ongoing</li><li>Ongoing</li><li>Ongoing</li></ul>
1.1.6 Community Grant Funding	Funding for QLA operations and lacrosse development	<ul> <li>Continue to source applicable grant funding at the organisational level and club level</li> <li>Management committee to apply for all applicable grants at the organisational level</li> <li>Communicate to and assist clubs with their grant application process for grants at the club level</li> <li>Share successful grant application knowledge and tool kits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>
1.1.6 Sponsorship	Maintain and increase of sponsorship to assist with development of lacrosse.	<ul> <li>Develop the role of sponsorship coordinator including position description.</li> <li>Create sponsorship templates for consistency and ease of access to sponsorship opportunities when they arise</li> <li>Provide training for volunteers to undertake developing sponsorship proposals.</li> <li>Increase the number of sponsors</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017</li> <li>Q1 2017</li> <li>As necessary</li> <li>2017 and ongoing</li> </ul>

### **1.2** Policy and Guidelines

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
1.2.1 Financials	Financially responsible organisation	<ul> <li>Continue to maintain clear, accountable and transparent financial management</li> <li>Maintain all financial reporting as required by statutory bodies</li> <li>Continue to prepare and maintain annual budgets</li> <li>Review membership fees on an annual basis</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Annually</li> <li>Annually</li> <li>Annually</li> <li>Annually</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Review all areas of operation on an annual basis</li> <li>Upgrade financial reporting and provide relevant training as required</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Annually</li><li>Ongoing</li></ul>
1.2.2 Code of Conduct for players, committee, officials, coaches, and volunteers	A respectful and welcoming lacrosse community in Queensland	<ul> <li>Management Committee to continually review Code of Conduct effectiveness and update as necessary</li> <li>Using the "Play by the Rules" initiative and the ASC as a guideline clearly define what we consider as acceptable behaviour and conduct for stakeholders. This should be visible on our website</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Annually and ongoing</li><li>Ongoing</li></ul>
1.2.3 Child protection	A safe environment for participants under 18 years of age and peace of mind for their legal Guardians	<ul> <li>Those members who are involved in the coaching, officiating or management of programs where under 18's are involved, are required to have Working with Children Certifications</li> <li>Ensure all clubs have a member protection officer</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Ongoing</li><li>Ongoing</li></ul>
1.2.4 Risk Management	Maintain review and update all policy and procedures on an annual basis	<ul> <li>Conduct an annual review on all policies and procedures to ensure they are relevant and up to date</li> <li>Update all policies and procedures on electronic media available for the use of clubs and members</li> <li>Communicate with clubs to ensure relevant policies and procedures have been placed on club electronic media and are updated regularly</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> </ul>
1.2.5 Complaints and Discipline	Complaints are dealt with appropriately, confidentially, and respectfully for everyone involved	Management Committee to continually review complaint process for effectiveness and update as necessary	Ongoing and as required

## Pillar 2 – Develop the best people

<u>Purpose</u>: Within the pillar area of **Develop the best people**, QLA is committed to creating a safe, active, and enjoyable environment for everyone by enhancing the skills and awareness of the people involved in the game of lacrosse in Queensland. These people would include:

- Officials
- Coaches
- Players
- Volunteers
- Others

#### 2.1. Officials

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
	The Referee coordinator is	• The management committee will appoint a qualified official as Head Official	• Q1 2017
2.1.1 Create and	responsible for the	• The management committee will review and update position responsibilities	Ongoing
empower position of	development and quality		
Referee coordinator	of lacrosse officiating in		
	Queensland		
2.1.2 Recruitment of	Continuously add capable	• Encouraging participants to attend officiating courses facilitated by the QLA	Annually
officials	officials to the QLA	Recruit retired lacrosse players and other volunteers to official	• If available
	Continually increase the	<ul> <li>Identify and support officials to obtain national accreditation</li> </ul>	Ongoing
	quality of officiating in	• Provide certified officiating course for new officials	Annually
2.1.3 Skill Development	Queensland	• Provide qualified officiating training courses annually to upskill existing referees	Annually
		• Encourage and support officials to referee at national tournaments for upskilling	• If available
	Clarification of rules to	• Ensure clarification of certain rules and procedures are developed and improved	• Q1 2017 and
2.1.4 Rule Clarification	players, coaches, fans, and		annually
	officials		
	Bench officials for each	Facilitate upskilling bench official course	Start of each
2.1.6 Qualified Bench Officials	club that understand the		season and then
	role and responsibilities of		as necessary
	scorekeeping,		
	timekeeping, penalties etc.		

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
2.1.7 Feedback and Complaints	Allow for constructive feedback to the officials and standardise the quality of officiating in Queensland	Facilitate a game officials feedback process	• 2017 and ongoing

#### 2.2. Coaches

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
2.2.1 Coach Recruitment	Add coaches to each club and move away from the current player/coach model	• Actively encourage the clubs to recruit retired players, parents, and volunteers to coach the clubs	• 2017 and ongoing
2.2.2 Coach Upskilling	Continually advance the coaching skill and capability in Queensland	<ul> <li>Have a nationally accredited coaching instructor in Queensland that can certify new coaches</li> <li>Provide a certified coaching course within the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme</li> <li>Encourage guest coaching from ALA and other more established jurisdictions</li> <li>Encourage coaches to shadow and learn from other clubs as guest coaches</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and ongoing</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>If available</li> <li>If available</li> </ul>
2.2.3 Elite Coaching Pathway	Establish a pathway for coaches to be involved at the national and international level	<ul> <li>Inform coaches of national and international vacancies and their requirements</li> <li>Promote the coaches to the Australian Lacrosse Association</li> </ul>	<ul><li>As required</li><li>As required</li></ul>

### 2.3. Players

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
	Increased participation	<ul> <li>Continue to provide low cost entry into lacrosse for member recruitment and sustainability</li> </ul>	• 2017 and ongoing
2.3.1 Players - Senior		• Encourage each club to partner with organisations associated with active lifestyles to increase participation people	• 2017 and ongoing
		Retain existing players by providing an annual feedback survey from the	Annually
		management committee to the players asking them to rate the season and	
		management as well as provide thoughts on improvements	
	Increased participation	Provide low cost entry into lacrosse for member recruitment and sustainability	• 2017 and ongoing
2.3.2 Players - Junior		• Facilitate the "Learn Lacrosse" program to be executed through the clubs	• 2017 and ongoing
		Facilitate participant feedback	• 2017 and ongoing
	A more skilled game played	Ensure qualified coaches are running club team practices	Ongoing
2.2.2 Disver Linekilling	in Queensland	Ensure qualified referees are officiating games	Ongoing
2.3.3 Player Upskilling		Facilitate annual skill clinics with elite coaches from the ALA	• If available
		Provide access to Queensland Academy for Sport for QLA participants	• If required
	Reward players for their	Annual player awards for QLA league competition	• 2017 and ongoing
2.3.4 Player	hard work and dedication	Annual player awards for the QLA State competition	• 2017 and ongoing
Recognition		QLA newsletter about accomplishments	• 2017 and as
			required
2.3.5 Elite Player Pathways	Provide players the opportunity to play at an	• Provide information to clubs and players of upcoming opportunities for national and international competitions	As required
	elite level lacrosse in Australia and Internationally	• Promote Queensland players to the ALA, coaches, and managers of these teams	• As required

### 2.4. Volunteers

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
2.4.1 Recruit Volunteers	Increased volunteer support in Queensland	<ul> <li>Encourage clubs to recruit volunteers</li> <li>Facilitate connections between the clubs and organisations that provide volunteers</li> <li>Advertise for volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Ongoing</li><li>Ongoing</li><li>As required</li></ul>
2.4.2 Train Volunteers	Increased operational execution	Facilitate training and upskilling courses for the volunteers	As required
2.4.3 Recognise Volunteers	The lacrosse community has a greater appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the Volunteers	• Provide awards and recognition for volunteers	• Annually
2.4.4 Volunteer Feedback	Understanding of the issues, concerns, and importance of the volunteer's opinions	Provide an annual feedback survey from the management committee	Annually

### 2.5. Others

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
2.5.1 Outside Lacrosse Recognition	Recognition beyond the Lacrosse community in Queensland and promotion of the game of Lacrosse in other circles	<ul> <li>Support possible non-lacrosse related awards that members of the QLA may be qualified to have received</li> </ul>	As necessary
2.5.2 Commonwealth Games Participation	Members with international games experience	• Actively pursue opportunities to include QLA member's participation in both the operation and game play of the Commonwealth Games	• 2018

## Pillar 3 – Provide opportunities to play lacrosse in Queensland

<u>Purpose</u>: Within the pillar area of **Provide opportunities to play lacrosse in Queensland**, QLA is committed to providing organised, safe, and engaging competitions and events for all participants in Queensland lacrosse.

#### 3.1. Competitions

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
3.1.1 League Competition – Men's and Women's	Sustainable organised lacrosse played in Queensland to increase participation and the quality of lacrosse	<ul> <li>Continue to promote, maintain, and improve a men's and women's competition for the Clubs</li> <li>Ensure all clubs are provided with confirmed competition information in a timely manner</li> </ul>	<ul><li> 2017 and ongoing</li><li> Ongoing</li></ul>
3.1.2 State Championship – Men's and Women's	Increase the number of members participating in the State Championship	<ul> <li>Encourage and facilitate clubs from throughout Queensland to send teams to the State competition</li> <li>Ensure all clubs are provided with confirmed competition information in a timely manner</li> <li>Market and promote the tournament</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and ongoing</li> <li>Annually</li> <li>Annually</li> </ul>
3.1.3 School participation	Continued development of the inter-school competition	<ul> <li>Link with SSC Knights to implement stage 1 of the participation program</li> <li>Prepare 2018 participation program by contacting schools in Mt. Gravatt region</li> </ul>	• 2017 • Q4 2017
3.1.4 Junior Competition	Increased Junior member participation	<ul> <li>Establish and facilitate junior competition for 11 – 15 year-old participants capitalising on participation of the Learn Lacrosse program and inter-school competition</li> </ul>	• 2017 and ongoing
3.1.4 Australian National Championship	QLA teams competing in the National Championship Tournament	<ul> <li>Source interest of members to play in National championships</li> <li>Create and implement a National Team program framework</li> <li>Fundraising for national teams to lower costs</li> <li>Send teams to National Tournaments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> </ul>

### 3.2. Events

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
3.2.1 East Coast Tournament	Opportunity for members to train for and engage in high- level lacrosse and promotion of the game in Queensland and New South Wales	<ul> <li>Develop a "Queensland Team" culture for elite participants of lacrosse in QLD</li> <li>Continue to send full men's and women's teams to compete in the tournament</li> <li>Facilitate a State Team training and competition program</li> <li>Communicate confirmed tournament information in a timely manner</li> <li>Maintain ongoing communication with NSW and ALA Lacrosse</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and annually</li> </ul>
3.2.2 Club Events	Additional events for recruitment, upskilling, and building the lacrosse community in Queensland	<ul> <li>Continue to promote the existing club events</li> <li>Assist the club events by supporting the clubs with the administration, promotion, and lessons learned from prior events</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>2017 and annually</li> </ul>

## Pillar 4 – Marketing and Media

<u>Purpose</u>: Within the pillar area of **Marketing and Media**, QLA is committed to promoting and marketing the skills, benefits of playing, and overall entertainment value of the game of lacrosse in Queensland to increase awareness and participation.

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
4.1.1 Marketing	Increase awareness of the game of lacrosse in Queensland	<ul> <li>Appoint marketing and promotion coordinator</li> <li>Use of all forms of media to market events, players, and volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and annually</li> <li>As required for events and</li> </ul>
		Management Committee establishes Commonwealth Games marketing strategy	competitions <ul> <li>Q3 2017</li> </ul>
4.1.2 Media	Actively maintain and seek opportunities to promote the sport of lacrosse throughout Queensland.	<ul> <li>Review and update content for promotional opportunities</li> <li>Improve communication to clubs about promotional opportunities</li> <li>Encourage the clubs to seek out non-traditional media opportunities</li> <li>Actively encourage the clubs to establish media connections with local media</li> <li>Support the clubs to contact, follow, and engage with relevant organisations in the media</li> <li>Online Stream of State Championship Games 2019</li> <li>Online Stream of East Coast Tournament Games 2018</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2017 and ongoing</li> <li>2017 and ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>2019</li> <li>2018</li> </ul>
4.1.3 Apparel	Symbols of Queensland lacrosse in the communities	<ul> <li>Encourage the Clubs to create team apparel</li> <li>Design QLD team uniforms for competitions</li> </ul>	• 2017 • 2018

### Pillar 5 – Provide opportunities for our people to showcase our skills

<u>Purpose</u>: Within the pillar area of **Provide opportunities for our people to showcase our skills**, QLA is committed to providing access to competitions and events for Queensland lacrosse players, coaches, and officials to perform on the national and international stage.

Objectives	Outcomes	Strategy	Timeframe
5.1.1 National Tournaments	QLA players, coaches and	Continue to facilitate individual participation in National events	• 2017 and ongoing
	officials competing at the	<ul> <li>Recognise accomplishments at these tournaments</li> </ul>	• 2017 and ongoing
	National level	<ul> <li>Send QLA teams to Nationals from Junior through to Senior</li> </ul>	• 2019
5.1.2 International Tournaments	QLA players, coaches and	Continue to inform and encourage participation in these tournaments	• 2017 and ongoing
	officials competing at the	Actively promote QLA members to the ALA	• 2017 and ongoing
	International level	Recognise accomplishments at these tournaments	• 2017 and ongoing

## Summary

In isolation, each of the pillar areas of the 2017 – 2019 QLA Strategic Plan will not be able to achieve the success of growing and developing the sport of Lacrosse within Queensland. Each pillar area needs to work in unison with the other key pillar areas to achieve the desired outcomes of the QLA.



The challenge for the members of Queensland Lacrosse is to now bring the thoughts, ideas and suggestions that have been provided to create this strategic plan and use them to reach the outcomes agreed upon. Previously the QLA had been 'United in the Challenge Ahead'. Now the challenge is to be 'Prevail in the Challenge Ahead'.