

Presidents Report 2021



After a couple of really interrupted season's, it seems we finally have some stability at present with Covid, and this has allowed both our juniors and seniors to get back on the court and have some fun again, which has been great to witness!

Your committee, has been exceptionally busy trying to manage the on and then off again Covid restrictions and my personal thanks, to our Secretary Mel Strang who has sent out more notices, advices and info in general than any person in the history of the BMBA over the past 18 months of COVID 19, she has been fantastic so Mel my personal and sincere thanks.

Financially, it's been a bit of an unusual year with limited income but limited expenses in a lot of our normal endeavours but the Association has maintained a steady income stream and combined with our Business Partners Program, of which we know have 8 local businesses supporting just about everything we do. Plus those Government grants that have been available, we can once again say we have had a good result this year, and adds to create our positive bank balance which is \$ 160,000.00.

Special mention here re Jo Blain, who is our Admin Manager and really makes most of our competitions happen, without her dedication, accounting and general follow up, we simply could not provide the level of service we provide.

With the expansion of our Business Partners Program over the past 12 months, we absolutely request that all our member's please take the opportunity to get to know who our Business Partners are and what they do, and wherever possible utilise their services to show your support with your patronage, as our way of saying of all our Members saying thank you !

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| ★ <i>Bendigo Bank (Finance/Banking)</i> | ★ <i>Recruitment Vision (Staff Recruitment)</i> |
| ★ <i>Bacchus Marsh Tyres (Tyre Sales)</i> | ★ <i>Sign Perfection (Sign Writing/Printing)</i> |
| ★ <i>Greenhill Bathrooms (Bathroom Renovations)</i> | ★ <i>Warren Plumbing (Plumbing Works)</i> |
| ★ <i>Modern Concrete (Landscaping Concrete finishes)</i> | ★ <i>Stockdale and Leggo (Realestate Agents)</i> |

Throughout these very unusual times, your committee has still been able to begin a number of programs designed to increase our membership and educate our players, an example is the U12 Cubs Boys and Girls Development Program, which has now come to an end and we thank all involved. In what was a very disjointed program due to Covid, we were all certainly impressed with the quality of young players coming through our Association and we intend to run this program again same time next year. The real biproduct of this program was the fantastic number of registered players for tryouts in this age group, so the program was well worth the effort.

Our thanks to Grace Bibby, Andy Giles, James Waters, Kiera Williams and Jess Fisher who took on most of the sessions, without their efforts none of this would have been possible.

Likewise, the BMBA Primary Schools Beginners program was adversely affected by Covid and yet we still had some 34 -40 kids each Wednesday night enjoying/learning the skills involved with basketball. Our special thanks go to Scott, Ben, Keira, Jess, Lilly, Ella and Miah for helping make this program so much fun and a pleasure to be a part of. This program will finalise just prior to Xmas but a new program will commence again early next year and we specifically thank the Primary Schools involved, for allowing us to run the initial skills program in their schools each year.

Now re the Country Basketball League (CBL), I have to say it's been exciting to be watch the growing talent assembled for both our Men's and Women's teams, with a 50/50 representation of locals and newbies in both teams, we have plethora of really good basketballers representing us in CBL this season. Both Ian Neeves and Grace Bibby, as our Head Coaches have stated they are really happy with the talent in their respective squads and as such we wish them both every success for the rest of the season.

A special mention to the efforts of Leigh Bradbury who took ownership of getting a Women's team up and running this year, to join our existing Men's Program. We are now seeing the fruits of his labour and hard work over the past few months – so again my sincere thanks !

Then we have our Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL) program back up and running and it was really pleasing to see so many young basketballers turned out for the tryouts. I think this guarantees us as an Association, a great VJBL season and tells us that basketball is certainly back and fully alive in the Marsh!

Once again as with previous years, Dave Champness is the link to everything VJBL and on behalf of every player, parent and coach, may I say a very special thank you for all his efforts, the information flow is incredible.

Then we also have on the horizon, the pending new facility, with final funding announced and tendering ready to go, it's now officially happening which is also very exciting, while this has been just a dream for many years the effort put in by our BMBA New Facility subcommittee over the past 12 months has been fantastic but a lot more on that will be available, throughout the next year as we start to work towards how we must operate to ensure we can maximise such an exciting opportunity.

Likewise, I would also like to acknowledge the great communication and improved relationships that now exist between the BMBA and the (4) individual Clubs, we are working more and more closely than ever before for the good of Basketball and it shows – my sincere gratitude to all (4) Clubs and their respective committees.

Finally with all current Committee members re-standing and after what they have faced together over the past 18 months, I think we are all quite excited about getting back to just being a Basketball Association again, focused on providing a variety of basketball competitions for our BMBA Member's and their families to enjoy.

To those considering standing, pleased do as the more new blood we get on board, the better the entire management works, so on behalf of the entire BMBA Committee and all our member volunteers, I take this opportunity to not only wish the BMBA every success moving forward, but likewise a very Merry Christmas to one and all !

Regards,
Wayne Slack
President