



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Bruce Robinson

October 2023

Firstly, thank you to all the Club Members for voting in the new Board of Directors at the AGM.

We held our first Board Meeting on Tuesday, 14th November 2023, and I am very honoured to have been elected Chairman by my fellow Board Members.

Secondly, the Board wish to thank those former Board Members (Barry Rumble, Glen Hanna, Pat Holman and Jim Crisp) for their efforts over the last few years. A big thank you for laying the foundations, that we can build on.

Our new Board consists of:

Vice Chairman – Paul Sullivan

Board Members – Ellie Watson, Deb Atterton, John O'Shea, Gus Gall and Scott Colomb

We are excited about the diversity of experience on the Board and what the individuals bring to the Board, that will set the Club on a platform for success.

With that in mind, we discussed and passed at the first Board Meeting that each Director will have responsibilities in working with the Club CEO and department heads setting strategy and advising, in the following areas:

- * Finance and Corporate Governance
- * Sport, Recreation and Infrastructure
- * Member and Community Engagement
- * Marketing and Communication
- * Food Beverage and Hospitality

These sub-committees will meet regularly and report back to the Board, to discuss actions and seek Board approval for any actions.

There will be no overnight "lightning bolt result", but over time things will build, and differences will be noticed.



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The Financial performance in September 2023, was a significant improvement on previous months, but the whole Club Industry is feeling the pressure of inflation on the price of goods and services, and a slight downturn in consumer spending on Food, Beverage and Gambling.

Having said that, the preliminary figures for October 2023 show an uptick and Melbourne Cup Day in the Club was the highest daily turnover day in some time.

The Bistro renovations are complete, and new furniture and decor is in place, creating a more convivial atmosphere to enjoy a meal and conversation. The menu continues to evolve, with daily board specials such as Fresh Barramundi when available, and the Club Specials on certain days of the week.

We have had some exciting events held at our Club in recent weeks. Ladies Bowls had an event with 80 players enjoying the Bowling Greens and the Clubs facilities, the SWR Golf Course held the NSW Country Championships, a 36-hole 2-day event, which attracted 120 of the States best amateurs. Kempsey local and ex SWR Club Champion winner Andrew Kirkman winning with a score of -2. The Course and the town received rave reviews from both competitors and their families, with many saying "it is a hidden gem" and that they will be back to SWR and play the course. Congrats to Dave Hobday and his team for organising and presenting the course in top notch condition.

This coming week we have The Jewel of the Coast 36-hole Mens event on Saturday and Sunday with over 140 registered players, followed by 3 days of Women's Jewel of the Coast, where some 240 Women are registered to play.

An exciting time leading into a busy tourist season, with in-club entertainment being provided on Friday nights, The Fan Cave continuing to be well supported for the various sports being televised and Social Alley enjoying good patronage.

Enjoy our Club and tell your friends and family to come on down.

Bruce Robinson

Chairman



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