



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



CANBERRA REGION RUGBY LEAGUE



Canberra Region Rugby League would like to thank all our sponsors for their support during 2021.



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Delta variant of COVID-19 finally shut down Canberra and the regions in August after so many months of avoiding and keeping the dreaded pandemic at bay and locked within the Greater Sydney Region.

This was the great disappointment, in that our finals series in both our senior and junior competitions were not able to be held after so much hard work and a terrific recovery after the trauma of the 2020 season.

Our clubs, especially the seniors, were moving into the unknown with a return to play after most of them had been in hibernation from the 2020 lockdown. The fact that we came back with increased participation across the juniors and the seniors is a great testament to the resilience of rugby league and our clubs.

Our great thanks go to the wonderful volunteers who have faced so many challenges over the last two years and have been able to not only rebuild our game but progress it further to the greatest participation numbers in our history. The total of 5,798 participants makes the Canberra region the fourth largest in the NSW Rugby League family. This is something that all clubs, administrators and volunteers can take great pride in.

Once again, our clubs have had to negotiate with sponsors and partners due to the shortened season and there is the potential for a shortfall within their budgets. Notwithstanding, on behalf of the CRRL, I thank the great sponsors and partners of the clubs in so many areas for their unwavering support of our community and in particular, our community clubs and teams. Your invaluable support is greatly appreciated.

NSWRL has continued its re-structuring of the way rugby league operates in the state after the merger between the NSWRL and Country Rugby League. Our Monaro region is currently part of the Bidgee region and the Greater Western and South-West zone. We appreciate the efforts of Zone Manager, David Skinner; Bidgee Manager, James Smart, and League and Club Support Officers, Jake McDonald (Monaro) and Dean Sutherland (Riverina).

One of the benefits of this relationship has been the closer ties between Group 16 and the CRRL, with Jake McDonald regularly being a part of



the CRRL staff meetings and strategic planning. This also extends to working closely with James Smart and David Skinner on relevant areas of mutual benefit. An example of this has been the ability for myself to be part of a Judiciary and Disciplinary advisory group where our policies and interpretations are more closely aligned. The CRRL is also assisting Group 16 with their Judiciary hearings when requested and a great sense of co-operation has been fostered across the region.

The other substantial benefit of the NSWRL merger has been the commitment by NSWRL CEO Dave Trodden and his team, in taking over the old Raiders HQ at Bruce and transforming it into the southern NSW regional hub. This has directly benefited rugby league in so many ways. The Belconnen United Sharks, seemingly for the first time in their

existence, have a permanent home in a quality facility. The NRL Development officers have a base for themselves and their programs. The referees have access to quality facilities for training and the Score Raiders also benefit from the training ground.

Finally, the Monaro and Raiders representative teams also have a training facility, and the oval has increased the stock of grounds available for community rugby league.



As the season was shortened, the CRRL committee took the difficult decision to only award the minor premiership in all grades due to the finals series being regarded virtually as a separate competition. The minor premierships will be recorded as such on the record with a notation that the season was shortened due to the COVID pandemic. Congratulations to all those teams that were successful in being awarded the minor premiership.

The CRRL committee had a significant change this year when long standing member, Tom Ebsworth, retired from the committee. Tom has had a long and distinguished career on the committee and has served as the NSWRL representative to the NSWRL, served on the committee and



chaired the old Bidgee Region committee and had served on the Country Rugby League committee for well over 25 years. Tom's understanding of the history of the game in the region, its development and his commitment to volunteering in these roles and at club level is a testament to his love for our great game. Tom is a Life member of the CRRL which acknowledges the esteem in which he is held.

Judiciary Co-Chair, Bill Logan, has retired from his role after five years with us. Bill's knowledge and expertise having chaired the Wide Bay Judiciary before re-locating to Canberra has allowed the panel to expand and lessen the workload on our hard-working members. We thank Bill for his contribution to the CRRL.



Mark Ryan, Chris Nightingale, and their team at the Canberra & District Referees Association continue to support our organisation through their training of referees and touch judges, the appointments, and ensuring that as many games as possible have match officials that are game ready or in development. The growth of participation in the region has placed more pressure on the

recruitment and retention of the referees as they have further to travel and more games to officiate. It is incumbent on all of us at matches to support the officials and assist in recruiting more referees so that our game can be run and officiated as the best in Canberra. The relationship between the Referees' Association and the CRRL is strong, supportive, and mutually beneficial.

Wheelchair Rugby League continues to grow and being awarded the Ministers Award for Inclusion at the 2021 CBR Sports Awards was great recognition for the program, which had its first competition season. I must thank the Wheelchair sub-committee of Matt and Kim Collins, Tiffany White and Jake Naylor for their hard work and ability to generate and promote contacts in the Defence and Education areas.

The Score Raiders program goes from strength to strength although impacted heavily due to the COVID situation. This year it was great to see the Score Raiders play our Under 14 teams and become part of the



draw in the modified two-handed touch football concept. This provides a true inclusion opportunity and life skills education for all concerned. My thanks to the clubs for participating in this venture and to the great relationship between the CRRL and The Disability Trust and their program directors, Eilish Winbank and Ben Cunningham.

Our thanks to the Judiciary and Disciplinary committees who once again worked in the Zoom environment and had to contend with a mid-season shift with the implementation of the NSWRL's revised Tough Love in League policy, which was supported by the CRRL committee.

We must acknowledge the continued support of our sponsors, Blumers Lawyers and Specsavers, for once again being a part of the rugby league family. Your on-going support in these disrupted times is greatly appreciated. The Raiders Group of clubs have now had two years of lockdowns and re-openings to contend with but continue to support our administration to make rugby league one of the most cost-effective sports for children to participate in.

The CRRL staff continue to benchmark other sports registration fees and rugby league is one of, if not, the best value for money for participants. This is such a positive reflection on the management of our club committees and the continued investment in the game by the Raiders Group and Canberra District Rugby League.

To my colleagues of the Canberra Region Rugby League committee, a huge vote of thanks for your support and advice during another extraordinary year. The continued pandemic challenges have tested our collective skills and judgments as administrators. Your wise counsel and considered opinions have been greatly appreciated. I said last year was a year like no other but again we have had to contend with issues not imaginable even to the most experienced of us.

With increased participation and programs comes increased workloads, responsibility and expectations. The CRRL staff has continued to meet the challenges of the pandemic and the goal of our rugby league community in being the best run league in the state. The continued increase in professionalism in competition management; guiding clubs in accreditation and working with the concussion protocols and the elevation of the communications through the various platforms that has seen record engagement and promotion of our game is a testament to the dedication of the CRRL team. To Deb Ford, Deb Charman, Jen



Pilosio, Rosie Harrison, Sarah Williams and General Manager, Mark Vergano you have performed as well as a team as any of our minor premiership winners. Congratulations on the standards you have set and continue to maintain.

To Don Furner and all the Raiders staff who have also assisted us this season, we thank you for the integrated nature of the business and the beneficial relationships developed to promote the game in our community. The work between the CRRL staff and the Raiders staff is seamless and has benefited both organisations in the delivery of rugby league in the region.

I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Gary Green
Chairman
CRRL



Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Committee Report for 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Gary Green
Executive Officer	Mark Vergano (non-voting)
Senior Club Representatives	Joe Stephens Steven Troth Phillip Watts
George Tooke Shield Representative	Tony Rayner
Junior Club Representatives	Greg Bell Gary Bergkotte Danny Roper
Appointed Members	Chris Nightingale (CDRL Referees Association) Jon Tucker (ACT Schools RL Council) Yvette Croft (Canberra Women's Rugby League)

CRJRL COMMITTEE - Attendance at 9 Committee Meetings held in 2021

Committee Member	Meeting Attendance	Apologies
Greg Bell	9	0
Gary Bergkotte	9	0
Yvette Croft	8	1
Joe Stephens	9	0
Gary Green	9	0
Chris Nightingale	9	0
Tony Rayner	7	2
Danny Roper	8	1
Steve Troth	8	1
Jon Tucker	7	2
Mark Vergano	9	0
Phillip Watts	9	0



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The 2021 season provided plenty of highlights and some inordinate challenges as a conspiracy of COVID-19 and the weather made the season a difficult one to navigate. The fact that we were able to progress to August with Greater Sydney in lockdown since June was a remarkable feat in itself.

However, I think all regional NSW and the ACT could feel the noose tightening and it was a matter of time until a lockdown occurred. In the ACT that was August 13 and from being a week or a two-week lockdown initially expected it became much longer. The competitions were abandoned when lockdowns were extended and any competition play would not be possible until October at the earliest. The CRRL committee, in consultation with the clubs, took the decision to abandon the competitions and subsequently to award the minor premierships to clubs.

In echoing the Chairman's sentiments, the junior and senior clubs were magnificent in the way they attacked the season; their recruitment, their promotions, coming out of hibernation in many cases and the financial stability that ensued after the doubts of the previous year. Also, parents must be commended for getting their children back onto the sporting fields of Canberra to again be active participants in all sports, but especially rugby league.

Participation Numbers 2012 - 2021

YEAR	JUNIORS	SENIORS	TOTAL
2012	3589	766	4355
2013	3622	710	4332
2014	3575	667	4242
2015	3598	884	4482
2016	3454	1278	4732
2017	3402	1467	4869
2018	3517	1429	4946
2019	3675	1430	5105
2020	3818	553	4371
2021	4192	1,606	5,798



The CRRL's overall participation numbers continued to grow and due to the erratic nature of the 2020 numbers, all Leagues used their 2019 numbers as a baseline.

The Highlights in Participation were:

- Overall participation grew by 13.5% from 5105 (2019) to 5798 which is very gratifying.
- Junior numbers rose by 14% from 3675 (2019) to 4182
- Senior numbers increased by 12% moving from 1430 to 1606.
- Overall female participation now represents approximately 20% of overall participation.
- Junior boys have risen from 3267 in 2019 to 3728 in 2021
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation across playing and other roles represents 9% of total registrations (*Note - of those that identify at time of registration)

I commend the infographic in this Annual Report for a summary of our participation.

These impressive numbers are down to the hard work of our club representatives and volunteers that maintain the structures for players to join and play in a safe, welcoming, and non-threatening environment. Unfortunately, we still see too often this great work by volunteers undone by poor sideline behaviour, over-competitiveness or excuse and blame culture directed towards the referees and other officials.

Remember, virtually everyone at the game, even ground managers, are volunteers and are there to assist you and the orderly running of matches, carnivals or game day.

Whilst the CRRL unequivocally supported the introduction of the NSWRL's revised Tough Love in League protocols with much harsher penalties and now loss of points for teams, it saddens us that we had to institute them. However, the League will not tolerate poor sideline behaviour with special emphasis on racial vilification and referee abuse.

The excuses of "being passionate" or it was "just banter" are not defences against behaviour which is abusive, demeans people or shows a lack of respect.



Development and Referees

We must thank the efforts of our NRL Development officers Aaron Peat and Shane Read who have been active and enthusiastic in the promotion of rugby league in the region until the lockdown. The NRL Player Blitz is a great promotion early season to drive recruitment and the League Stars and schools' program are an integral part of our development programs.

The Referees' Association continues to play a central role in the CRRL being able to provide match officials from Under 7s through to First Grade rugby league. As noted by the Chairman, the referee cohort is under strain with the increase in participation and collectively we have an obligation to assist with recruitment but also assist with retention by appreciating the important role they play in our game. There are several younger referees who have been identified by the NSWRL as part of their high-performance program and this is covered in Chris Nightingale's report. Congratulations to the referees in achieving these standards and to be recognised by their peers.

Competitions

The Canberra Raiders Cup clubs had to come out of hibernation in many cases and find players to fill their ranks. They had to contend with an uncertain sponsorship landscape and a reduction in their general grant due to the licensed clubs still recovering from the 2020 lockdown. These were challenges that the clubs took head on and produced plenty of quality rugby league in the process.

The Raiders Cup clubs operated under a new broad based salary cap scheme which complemented the existing local player points system that has been in operation. For 2022 the local player points system will be superseded by a state-wide Player Points Index System which will supply consistency across the state in all competitions. The system will hopefully ensure sustainability in clubs and





competitions but also heavily favours clubs that produce and retain their own juniors. This can only be viewed as a positive.

In a sign of the times and a heightened awareness of the leagues' and clubs' duty of care, an 18th player replacement rule was implemented for the first time. Allied to this, enhanced concussion protocols were implemented in line with NSWRL requirements and we must thank the trainer cohort for taking on and implementing the protocols.

There is still a long way to go with consistency of implementing and applying the protocols but if we all have player safety front of mind, we will not go too far wrong. Player welfare must supersede anything else when dealing with concussion protocols.

The Belconnen Sharks moved into the old Raiders HQ ground and Woden will in future see the benefits of a joint sport co-operation in the re-development of Phillip District Oval with new amenities and lights. Clubs in the ACT still pay far too much for ground hire on match days.

The Under 19 male competition is still one of concern for clubs and the CRRL, but there is a pipeline of clubs that have been nurturing their players through the Under 16 and Under 17 age groups that will hopefully soon graduate to the Under 19 competition.

As agreed, at the time of the change from the Under 16-18 competitions to the Under 17-19 competitions, the CRRL committee has engaged consultant Optimum Edge to review the Under 15 to Under 19 male cohort, the competitions and make recommendations from the findings. The consultant has been open to speaking with club coaches from these age groups, the NSWRL staff and Raiders High Performance staff as part of the process.

Although our playing strength was somewhat under siege due to player payments in other Groups, the underlying development of players in the CRRL was extremely sound.



Congratulations to player/coach Terry Campese and his Monaro men's team in winning the Country Championships. This was an outstanding effort on limited preparation.



The George Tooke Shield was adversely affected by COVID-19 and the return to play. Gunning was not able to supply a men's team but maintained a League Tag team. The 2020 Premiers Gordon also disappeared from the competition, but the competition did welcome an established club with Cootamundra moving from Group 9 to the George Tooke competition. The expertise and talent in the Cootamundra team had them challenging in the top four and we look forward to this competition maintaining its rise as a well-regarded and strong second tier competition.

The George Tooke representative team was resurrected after an absence of some 19 years and played against the Woodbridge Cup representative team in both the male tackle and Ladies League Tag. Pleasingly, the George Tooke teams won both matches and this will likely be an annual event. The representative fixtures are likely to expand to playing the Group 16 representative teams as well which will be a further attraction for GTS players.



The junior competitions continued to increase their numbers and the addition of Under 12 and Under 16 League Tag competitions begin the



process of underpinning the senior teams and having more females closer to our game.

The CRRL has begun to focus more on coach training and engagement, with courses run by NRL Development staff and Dean Souter focused on engaging the coaches and providing more skill tools for them to work with. Coaches are a central plank not only for the actual coaching of players but they set culture, can engage parents to act in an appropriate manner and also in developing positive relationships with match officials. Coaches are central to setting the positive tone which will assist in sideline and player behaviour.

Of course the great disappointment for all our competitions was the fact that finals were not able to be played and that many juniors missed a minimum of another three weeks of rugby league. We hope that the players will stick with the game as things (hopefully) open up in 2022.

Female Participation 2012-2021

YEAR	JUNIORS	SENIORS
2012	24	0
2013	85	0
2014	129	0
2015	152	85
2016	193	200
2017	219	418
2018	320	423
2019	408	513
2020	451	225
2021	464	686

VALKYRIE PARTICIPATION MODEL (see appendix one)

CRRL/RAIDERS PARTICIPATION MODEL (see appendix two)

CRRL PARTICIPATION FACTSHEET (see appendix three)



The Valkyrie Participation Model was developed to show both the actual pathways open in female participation and the aspiration of the CRRL and the Canberra Raiders for female rugby league.

As publicly stated by Raiders CEO, Don Furner, the Raiders are seeking a NRLW licence for the 2023 season. The Valkyrie Participation model is the response to allow female rugby league players of all ages to see what their pathway will look like.

The Katrina Fanning Shield (KFS) had seven teams in 2021 and there were many competitive matches. Pleasingly, many rated well on the BAR TV coverage and a KFS “Magic Round” was played during the general bye round with all matches streamed.



Growth in the senior rugby league area was a very healthy 33% from the 2019 numbers but the challenge is still to get younger players into the game and then having them to develop their skills and learn the game.

The move to institute girls only divisions in the Under 9s, Under 11s and Under 13s for 2022 is part of the overall strategic plan to increase numbers and allow players to develop in a non-competing environment.

The new KFS competition will be framed as a NRLW talent identification competition as we welcome Riverina and South Coast teams and graduate others out of the Under 17s. Players do not have to go to Sydney to be noticed by the selectors. They can have an opportunity to play NRLW from Canberra and the region.

Inclusion

Two programs have been very successful for rugby league this year.

Wheelchair Rugby League has seen it support its first competition and extend its influence throughout the Riverina with recruits from Wagga Wagga and Griffith plus the Canberra based players. Jen Pilosio has been tireless in meeting with disability groups and local councils to run Come



& Try days and engagement sessions to increase the opportunity for all people to participate.

It was pleasing to see several Rolling Raiders be selected for the NSW State of Origin Wheelchair squad in recognition of their skill and development.

The desire is to have a four-team competition into 2022 as we make inroads into the Defence system through Matt and Kim Collins' involvement and Jake Naylor's assistance in the education sector.

Equipment and repairs are key costs that must be supported but we are grateful for the sponsorship of MPS Travel, whose investment in the game and the program has allowed the CRRL to have a specialised trailer built to house and transport the great deal of equipment that must be maintained.

The Score Raiders program hit a major milestone this year with regular matches being played in the CRRL Under 14 competition. Junior teams played the Score Raiders on Sundays after their own matches in the two handed touch format. These matches were competitive but also were life skills developing for the Score Raiders players and for the junior teams involved. These interactions are teaching moments for both but also builds relationships, resilience and respect across our community.





Unfortunately, the Score Raiders program in playing the Score Dragons has been severely interrupted over the last two seasons with biosecurity lockdowns and the competition being moved to Queensland. The long-awaited debut of the Raiders versus Dragons match at GIO Stadium will hopefully become reality in 2022.

The work of the CRRL staff headed by Jen Pilosio and Sarah Williams in this area along with Eilish Winbank and Ben Cunningham from The Disability Trust is greatly appreciated and illustrates the reach of rugby league as a change for social good – its more than just a game.

Strategic Initiatives

The CRRL undertook with all four Tuggeranong based clubs a process of better aligning the clubs off field operations and on-going relationships. Under the Chairmanship of CRRL committee member Phil Watts, the clubs have been working on bringing all their coaching programs together, looking at common sponsorship opportunities, facilities development for a “home” base for rugby league in the Valley, developing strategies for younger players to be introduced to the game, girls tackle development and the Bushrangers working closely with the junior clubs’ male players from Under 15 to Under 17 in a transition program.

An Indigenous Advisory committee has been formed to work through strategies and issues within the community and rugby league. The CRRL is cognisant of the near 10% participation rate for our indigenous players and volunteers and is looking to develop a culturally aware program that will promote and make rugby league a leader in this development. We must thank Selina Walker, Eddie Longford, Margaret Blackman, Krystal Priestly, Rob Scott, Ian Martin and Papunya Connors for their input. We look forward to developing this area.

A facilities audit and the development of an on-going plan will be a 2022 goal. There is movement within the COMPS (Coalition of Major Participation Sports) ACT group for an all-sport co-operative and co-ordinated plan. Sarah Williams (and in her absence Jen Pilosio) and myself sit on this group and in favour of building relationships and increasing pressure on the ACT Government to review strategically the Territory’s facilities assets. Seeking to have a new pavilion at Wright Park in Queanbeyan is another essential facility improvement.



Acknowledgements

The CRRL once again would like to thank our media partners for their continued coverage and support of our sport. To WIN TV, Channel 9, The Canberra Times, Queanbeyan Age, Riot ACT, ABC Radio and television, 2CC and the regional news media who have been under pressure in recent years, we greatly appreciate our relationship in promoting community sport together.

The Raiders Group of clubs continued commitment to rugby league makes our sport very cost effective for the participants and ensures the viability of the community clubs and the CRRL itself. This investment in our game allows also for professional staff and administration to assist the clubs and makes the league one of the strongest in the regions. Thank you to all the General Managers for their commitment.

In the role of General Manager, I am ever so fortunate to have staff that continue to go above and beyond in their dedication to the tasks that need to be undertaken. The staff have been creative and innovative in implementing new programs; designing new criteria; negotiating with clubs and administrators on new processes; assisting club secretaries and registrars with technology challenges; taking Zoom meetings after hours to ensure we have constant and meaningful engagement. Just like the clubs, the team at the CRRL have had a remarkable two years in navigating the pandemic with its constantly changing health advice; myriad cross-border issues; ensuring the communications is timely and appropriate and providing the service to the clubs that is expected of a professional organisation.

In Deb Ford, Deb Charman, Jen Pilosio, Rosie Harrison and Sarah Williams, the CRRL and the competition in general have a team willing to put the betterment of the game and its volunteers first. They are talented administrators and above all they care for the people they deal with and for rugby league. We are fortunate to have them as part of the rugby league family and I am grateful for their continued support and dedication.

We can only hope that we have a return to normality and we get the season completed in 2022. Thank you again to all our volunteers who have met every challenge in the last two years and together we will continue to grow our great game.

Mark Vergano



2021 CRRL JUNIOR COMPETITION STATISTICS

Total Number of Clubs: 15

Total Number of Teams: 293

Total Number of Players: 4192

COMPETITIONS	2020 TEAMS	2020 PLAYERS	2021 TEAMS	2021 PLAYERS
Midgets	-	75	-	76
Mini (U6 - U9)*	131	1460	141	1615
Mod (U10 - U12)**	61	1000	79	1141
International (U13 - U17)	69	1283	73	1360
TOTALS	261*	3818	293*	4192

*Numbers include the Goulburn Mini Competition, which was administered by CRRL, and run by Goulburn Stockmen Juniors but does not include Midgets. Also includes 5-year-olds.

**Numbers include the U15, U17 girls' teams and U12 and U16 Girls League Tag.

BREAKDOWN	2020 TEAMS	2020 PLAYERS	2021 TEAMS	2021 PLAYERS
Midgets		75		76
Under 5		146		188
Under 6	32	292	36	266
Under 7	34	305	38	379
Under 8	33	360	33	369
Under 9	30	357	34	413
Under 10	20	345	27	402
Under 11	26	332	23	350
U12 Girls League Tag	N/A	N/A	10	
Under 12	18	323	19	389
Under 13	15	380	15	319
Under 14	12	274	17	381
U15 Girls & 16 League Tag	10		11	



Under 15	8	270	9	271
Under 16	8	189	9	232
Under 17	6	141	7	118
Under 17 Girls	5	29	5	39

The above figures have incorporated girls playing in the 2021 season.

Breakdown of Girls playing throughout the age groups are:

Midget	10
Under 5	14
Under 6	18
Under 7	19
Under 8	39
Under 9	20
Under 10	15
Under 11	19
Under 12	23
Under 13	74
Under 14	57
Under 15	58
Under 16	59
Under 17	39

Total Number of girls competing in the 2021 Junior season was 464 compared to 451 in 2020.



MCINTYRE MEDAL AWARDS 2021

West Belconnen Warriors second rower Joshua Ayers and Gungahlin Bulls five-eighth Tre Holten-Williams have jointly won the 2021 Les McIntyre Medal, both polling 14 votes.

The two players had excellent seasons, with their respective sides sitting in the top four when the competition was cut short. In his first year at West Belconnen, Ayers brought experience to the team and led from the front. The 35-year-old scored eight tries in his 12 games this season.



Holten-Williams starred in the Bulls side, leading the team to a minor premiership. The 24-year-old captain scored five tries, and it was his combination with the other spine players that made the Gungahlin side so dangerous.

Troy Whiley from the Queanbeyan Roos won the Leedon Shield Award, while Calab Edwards from the Gungahlin Bulls was awarded the David Sharpe Award. Brooke McKenna from the Goulburn City Bulldogs won the CRC Ladies League Tag Best & Fairest Award.



In the Specsavers Katrina Fanning Shield, Queanbeyan Blues hooker Payge-Louise Condon capped off a great season by winning the Maree Bush Shield by seven votes.



Emma James from the Harden Hawkettes won an incredible fourth consecutive Best & Fairest Award in the George Tooke Shield Ladies League Tag, while Cootamundra Bulldogs fullback Jordyn Ballard won the George Tooke Shield Gavin Miller Medal.

Evan Bayliss won the Noel Bissett Trophy for Outstanding Referee for the second straight year. North Canberra Juniors and Gungahlin product, Harley Smith-Shields, won the Don Elphick Medal for the Raiders Rookie of the Year, having graduated from CRRL to the NRL.





FULL LIST OF AWARD WINNERS

BLUMERS LAWYERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP FIRST GRADE

Top Try Scorer	Mathew Parsons - 24 tries	Queanbeyan Blues
Top Points Scorer	Lucas Thomson - 134 points	Gungahlin Bulls
Don Furner Senior Shield (Coach of the Year)	Adam Taylor	Queanbeyan Kangaroos
Les McIntyre Medal (Best & Fairest)	Joshua Ayers & Tre Holten-Williams - 14 points	West Belconnen Warriors & Gungahlin Bulls

BLUMERS LAWYERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP RESERVE GRADE

Top Try Scorer	Richard Maher - 15 tries	Yass Magpies
Top Points Scorer	Daniel Reid - 76 points	Queanbeyan Kangaroos
Leedon Shield (Best & Fairest)	Troy Whiley - 13 points	Queanbeyan Kangaroos

BLUMERS LAWYERS UNDER 19S

Top Try Scorer	Jyi Little - 12 tries	Goulburn City Bulldogs
Top Points Scorer	Thomas Harmer - 76 points	Goulburn City Bulldogs
David Sharpe (Best & Fairest)	Calab Edwards - 14 points	Gungahlin Bulls

SPECSAVERS CRC LADIES LEAGUE TAG

Top Try Scorer	Abbie Bailey - 15 tries	Gungahlin Bulls
Top Points Scorer	Sarah Carter - 100 points	West Belconnen Warriors
Coach of the Year	Ian Baker	Queanbeyan Kangaroos
Best & Fairest	Brooke McKenna - 18 points	Goulburn City Bulldogs



SPECSAVERS KATRINA FANNING SHIELD

Top Try Scorer	Lucy Prosser - 14 tries	Yass Magpies
Top Points Scorer	Lauren Kelly - 92 points	Goulburn City Bulldogs
Graham Willard Shield (Coach of the Year)	Mike Inkster	Yass Magpies
Maree Bush Medal (Best & Fairest)	Payge-Louise Condon - 19 points	Queanbeyan Blues

BLUMERS LAWYERS GEORGE TOOKE SHIELD

Top Try Scorer	Robert Sheffield - 13 tries	Bungendore Tigers
Top Points Scorer	Jordyn Ballard - 110 points	Cootamundra Bulldogs
Coach of the Year	Jack Bramley	Bungendore Tigers
Gavin Miller Medal (Best & Fairest)	Jordyn Ballard - 15 points	Cootamundra Bulldogs

SPECSAVERS GTS LADIES LEAGUE TAG

Top Try Scorer	Georgia Smith - 29 tries	Harden Hawkettes
Top Points Scorer	Emma James - 150 points	Harden Hawkettes
Coach of the Year	John Murray	Cootamundra Bulldogs
Best & Fairest	Emma James - 24 points	Harden Hawkettes

OTHER AWARDS

Noel Bissett Trophy (Outstanding Referee)	Evan Bayliss	
Don Elphick Medal (Rookie of the Year)	Harley Smith-Shields	
Hewson/Stonham Shield (Representative Player of the Year)	Isaiah Latu	Queanbeyan Blues
Representative Player of the Year Monaro Women	Nirada Phonsaya	Tuggeranong Bushrangers
Canberra Raiders Cup Club Champions	Gungahlin Bulls	
George Tooke Shield Club Champions	Harden Hawks	



NAMING OF AWARDS

Les McIntyre Medal – The Canberra Raiders Cup First Grade Best and Fairest Award is named after Les McIntyre who was the founding father of the Canberra Raiders. McIntyre was awarded life membership at the Canberra Raiders, Country Rugby League and New South Wales Rugby League.

Don Furner Snr Shield – The Canberra Raiders Cup First Grade Coach of the Year award is named after former Australian representative Don Furner Senior. During his playing years, Furner also represented Queensland before enjoying a successful coaching career. Furner coached Australia, the Queanbeyan Blues and was also the inaugural coach of the Canberra Raiders.

Leedon Shield – The Canberra Raiders Cup Reserve Grade Best and Fairest Award is named after Lee Donnelly who helped pave the way for the Raiders' entry to the NSWRL competition in 1982. He was heavily involved with the Woden Valley Rams and was also awarded life membership of the old Group 19 competition.

David Sharpe Award – The Canberra Raiders Cup Under 19's Best and Fairest Award is named after David Sharpe. Sharpe was involved in rugby league in the Canberra Region as a player for the Queanbeyan Blues before helping establish senior rugby league in Tuggeranong with the Valley Dragons and Tuggeranong Bushrangers. Sharpe coached both of these sides. He was well known for his role as football manager with the Canberra Raiders where he implemented education, development and welfare programs for the NRL. Sharpe was also an Assistant Commissioner in the AFP and is currently CEO of ASADA.

Gavin Miller Shield – The George Tooke Shield Open Men's Best and Fairest Award is named after two-time Dally M Medalist Gavin Miller. Miller played for a number of clubs but is best remembered for his stint with Cronulla where he was named as a club immortal. Miller also played for Goulburn during the late 1970's and early 1990's



Maree Bush Shield – The Katrina Fanning Shield Best and Fairest Award is named after influential administrator Maree Bush. Bush was a talented player who represented a number of clubs and helped establish new clubs in the women's competition.

Graham Willard Shield – The Katrina Fanning Shield Coach of the Year award is named after inaugural Jillaroo's coach Graham Willard. Willard won multiple premierships in women's rugby league in Canberra and enjoyed plenty of success at the Woden Valley Rams. Willard went on to coach the Jillaroos, the Australian Women's Rugby League Team, for their inaugural match in 1994.

Hewson/Stonham Shield – The Representative Player of the Year Award is named after Steve Hewson and Phil Stonham. Steve Hewson represented Monaro, NSW Country and NSW and was named Country Player of the Year in 1975. He is now involved in developing the overall strategy for NSW Wheelchair Rugby League, and in previous years has coached the Wheelaroos and NSW Wheelchair State of Origin teams. Phil Stonham enjoyed a long representative career with Monaro and was named Canberra Region as well as Country Player of the Year in 2004. Stonham played for the Queanbeyan Blues throughout the majority of his playing career.

Noel Bissett Trophy – The Outstanding Referee Award is named after former NSWRL referee and former CRRL Chairman, Noel Bissett. Bissett, who was awarded an Order of Australia in 2013, officiated in 275 Group 8 matches including 11 grand finals. Bissett is a life member of the Canberra Raiders and was also the president of the Canberra/Monaro – Men of League charity.

Don Elphick Medal – The award for Outstanding Rookie from the Canberra Region at the Canberra Raiders is named after Don Elphick. Elphick played an instrumental role in the formation of the Canberra Raiders and is a life member at the club.



SENIOR COMPETITIONS OVERVIEW

BLUMERS LAWYERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP FIRST GRADE

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
Gungahlin Bulls	13	25	11	1	1	1	424	340	84
Queanbeyan Blues	13	24	11	0	2	1	504	234	270
Queanbeyan Kangaroos	12	18	7	0	5	2	374	294	80
West Belconnen Warriors	12	17	6	1	5	2	270	282	-12
Goulburn City Bulldogs	13	14	5	2	6	2	336	368	-32
Belconnen United Sharks	12	12	4	0	8	2	286	334	-48
Yass Magpies	12	11	3	1	8	2	306	392	-86
Tuggeranong Bushrangers	13	10	4	0	9	1	304	392	-88
Woden Valley Rams	12	9	2	1	9	2	232	400	-168

This year's Canberra Raiders Cup First Grade minor premiership was awarded to the Gungahlin Bulls. The Bulls had an outstanding season, dropping just one game in round eight. They had the second-best attack in the competition, with their spine particularly impressive.

Five-eighth and captain Tre Holten-Williams was the joint winner of this year's Les McIntyre Medal after an excellent season, while centre Lucas Thomson was the competition's top point scorer. The Bulls had three players named in the 2021 Team of the Year, with Tristan Eldridge, Tre Holten-Williams and Zachary Patch all recognized for their efforts.





BLUMERS LAWYERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP RESERVE GRADE

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
Yass Magpies	12	21	8	1	3	2	318	202	116
Queanbeyan Blues	13	20	9	0	4	1	366	232	134
Queanbeyan Kangaroos	12	20	8	0	4	2	302	206	96
Gungahlin Bulls	13	19	8	1	4	1	348	236	112
Woden Valley Rams	12	18	7	0	5	2	416	206	210
West Belconnen Warriors	12	18	7	0	5	2	292	236	56
Goulburn City Bulldogs	13	10	4	0	9	2	212	334	-122
Belconnen United Sharks	12	10	3	0	9	2	188	410	-222
Tuggeranong Bushrangers	13	4	1	0	12	1	156	536	-380

With just three points separating the top six teams, the Canberra Raiders Cup Reserve Grade competition was a tight one, with the Yass Magpies claiming the minor premiership by one point. The Magpies started the season strongly, recording five wins and a draw in the opening seven rounds.



Winger Richard Maher was the competition's top try scorer, with 15 tries throughout the season. Maher and Christopher Rawlinson both finished third in the top points scorer tally at season's end. Five-eighth Matthew Lawrence had an impressive season with the Magpies, finishing second in the Leedon Shield Best and Fairest tally at the end of the season.



SPECSAVERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP LADIES LEAGUE TAG

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
West Belconnen Warriors	10	28	10	0	0	4	362	66	296
Gungahlin Bulls	12	22	9	0	3	3	314	104	210
Goulburn City Bulldogs	12	22	9	0	3	3	276	94	182
Woden Valley Rams	11	18	6	0	5	3	310	118	192
Belconnen United Sharks	10	16	4	0	6	4	170	97	73
Queanbeyan Blues	11	12	3	0	8	3	143	234	-91
Tuggeranong Bushrangers	11	12	3	0	8	3	70	374	-304
Queanbeyan Kangaroos	11	6	0	0	11	3	30	588	-558

The West Belconnen Warriors were this year's Minor Premiers in the Specsavers CRC Ladies League Tag competition.

The Warriors went through the whole season undefeated, with the best attacking and defensive records in the competition.

Sarah Carter was the top points scorer in the competition, scoring 100 points. Carter also finished second in the Best and Fairest tally at season's end. Photo by Trisha Sullivan





BLUMERS LAWYERS UNDER 19S

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff
Goulburn City Bulldogs	11	20	10	0	1	0	336	86	250
Gungahlin Bulls	11	18	9	0	2	0	362	140	222
Queanbeyan Blues	11	12	6	0	5	0	257	201	56
Yass Magpies	11	11	5	1	5	0	247	214	33
Harden/Boorowa	11	5	2	1	8	0	120	324	-204
Crookwell	11	0	0	0	11	0	106	463	-357

The Under 19s competition returned this year, with the 2021 Minor Premiership awarded to the Goulburn City Bulldogs. The Bulldogs had a very strong season, winning their first eight games of the season and losing just one match throughout the entire competition.

Centre Jyi Little was the competition's top try scorer with 12 tries, while centre partner Thomas Harmer was the top points scorer with 76 points. Jack Peppernell and Joshua Latham finished equal third in the David Sharpe Best and Fairest tally at season's end.





SPECSAVERS KATRINA FANNING SHIELD

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
Goulburn City Bulldogs	11	22	9	0	1	3	352	52	300
Yass Magpies	11	22	9	0	1	3	348	52	296
Queanbeyan Blues	12	16	6	0	4	2	304	114	190
Tuggeranong Bushrangers	12	14	5	0	5	2	246	170	76
UC Stars	10	12	3	0	5	3	64	232	-168
Harden Worhawks	10	5	2	0	7	3	66	336	-270
Boomanulla Raiders	12	0	0	0	11	2	30	454	-424



The Yass Magpies and Goulburn City Bulldogs were the joint Minor Premiers of the 2021 Specsavers Katrina Fanning Shield competition. Both sides were very impressive throughout the competition, dropping just one game each. They had the best defence in the competition by far, while their attack was equally as dangerous.

Yass fullback Lucy Prosser was the top try scorer in the competition with 14 tries in seven games. Goulburn halfback Lauren Kelly was the top points scorer, finishing the season with 92 points (three tries, 40 goals). Bulldogs' fullback Krystal Blackwell finished second in the Maree Bush Shield Best & Fairest tally, while Magpies second rower Samara Afele and hooker Shannon Wright finished third and fourth respectively.



SPECSAVERS GEORGE TOOKE SHIELD LADIES LEAGUE TAG

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
Harden Hawkettes	11	22	11	0	0	0	490	10	480
Cootamundra Bulldogs	12	20	10	0	2	0	350	116	234
Boorowa Roverettes	12	18	9	0	3	0	258	130	128
Crookwell She Devils	12	14	6	2	4	0	309	180	129
North Canberra Bears	12	14	7	0	5	0	202	152	50
Bungendore Tigers	12	12	5	2	5	0	268	116	152
Gunning Rooettes	12	10	5	0	7	0	86	252	-166
UC Stars	11	4	2	0	9	0	66	251	-185
Binalong Brahmans	11	2	1	0	10	0	56	312	-256
Burrangong Bears	11	0	0	0	11	0	16	582	-566

The Harden Hawkettes had a remarkable 2021 season, capped off by winning the Specsavers GTS Ladies League Tag Minor Premiership. The Hawkettes won all 11 of their matches, scoring 490 points across the season. They also had an incredible defensive record, letting in just 10 points.

Emma James won her fourth straight Best and Fairest award, with 24 votes across the season. She was also awarded the top points scorer award, with 150 points. Georgia Smith was the competition's top try scorer, scoring 29 tries in just nine games.





BLUMERS LAWYERS GEORGE TOOKE SHIELD

Team	Played	Points	Wins	Draws	Losses	Byes	For	Against	Diff.
North Canberra Bears	12	22	10	0	1	1	310	132	178
Bungendore Tigers	12	18	8	0	3	1	340	118	222
Cootamundra Bulldogs	12	17	8	0	3	1	284	138	146
Harden Hawks	11	16	7	0	3	1	222	173	49
Binalong Brahmans	12	14	5	0	5	2	166	168	-2
Boorowa Rovers	12	10	3	0	7	2	140	266	-126
Crookwell Green Devils	12	7	2	1	8	1	130	228	-98
Boomanulla Raiders	12	6	1	0	9	2	113	312	-199
UC Stars	12	1	2	1	7	2	118	288	-170

The North Canberra Bears were this year's George Tooke Shield Minor Premiers after a stellar season. The Bears won their first game of the competition before falling to the Cootamundra Bulldogs in round two. But the North Canberra side bounced back and went on to win the next nine straight games.

Keresoma Sione and Christopher Thorley finished equal second in the Gavin Miller Medal Best & Fairest tally at the end of the season. Thorley and Jacob Bink were selected as co-captains in the George Tooke Shield representative team for the rep game earlier in the season.





CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

BLUMERS LAWYERS CANBERRA RAIDERS CUP

Clubs	League Tag x 1.5	Under 19s x 2	Reserve Grade x 3	First Grade x 4	Total
Gungahlin Bulls	33	36	57	100	226
Queanbeyan Blues	18	24	60	96	198
West Belconnen Warriors	42	-	54	68	164
Goulburn City Bulldogs	33	40	30	56	159
Queanbeyan Kangaroos	9	-	60	72	141
Yass Magpies	-	22	63	44	129
Woden Valley Rams	27	-	54	36	117
Belconnen United Sharks	24	-	30	48	102
Tuggeranong Bushrangers	18	-	12	40	70

BLUMERS LAWYERS GEORGE TOOKE SHIELD

Clubs	Under 19s x 2	League Tag x 3	Tooke x 4	Total
Harden Hawks	5	66	64	135
North Canberra Bears	-	42	88	130
Cootamundra Bulldogs	-	60	68	128
Bungendore Tigers	-	36	72	108
Boorowa Rovers	5	54	40	99
Crookwell Green Devils	0	42	28	70
Binalong Brahmans	-	6	56	62
Gunning Rooettes	-	30	-	30
Boomanulla Raiders	-	-	24	24
UC Stars	-	12	4	16



CRRL 2021 SEASON JUNIOR MINOR PREMIERS

COMPETITION	WINNING TEAM/S
Under 10 Div 1	Goulburn Stockmen Blue
Under 10 Div 2	South Tuggeranong Knights Blue
Under 10 Div 3	Yass Magpies White
Under 11 Div 1	Woden Weston Gold
Under 11 Div 2	West Belconnen Blue
Under 11 Div 3	Tuggeranong Buffaloes Gold
Under 12 League Tag	Woden Weston & West Belconnen Gold
Under 12 Div 1	Queanbeyan United Blue
Under 12 Div 2	Queanbeyan United White
Under 12 Div 3	West Belconnen Gold
Under 13 Div 1	Woden Weston Gold
Under 13 Div 2	Gungahlin Bulls Red & Cooma Colts
Under 14 Div 1	Goulburn Stockmen Blue
Under 14 Div 2	Goulburn Stockmen Maroon
Under 15 Girls	Queanbeyan Kangaroos
Under 15 Div 1	Belconnen United Sharks
Under 15 Div 2	West Belconnen Blue
Under 16 Div 1	Goulburn Stockmen Blue
Under 16 Div 2	Yass Magpies
Under 16 League Tag	Woden Weston
Under 17 Girls	Woden Weston
Under 17s	Belconnen United Sharks



COMMUNITY RUGBY LEAGUE REPORT

The 2021 Canberra Region Rugby League (CRRL) season was highly anticipated by our rugby league community as we all know the benefits of participating in sport and the positive outcomes that can be achieved when we all work together.

It was fantastic to be able to host the 2021 CRRL Season Launch at GIO Stadium earlier in the year and bring people 'back to the footy', a favourite pastime of many but also a way for our football family to reconnect and engage with each other following the effects of the COVID-19 restrictions on our society and our game. Having the focus on CRRL for the day, which included the opportunity to form the guard of honour for the Canberra Raiders first grade team and the half-time relay race in front of a crowd of 15,000 people, was very well received and provided great entertainment for all.

It was important to ensure that community liaison was able to take place throughout the year when we had the chance and not much can beat the 15 junior club visits by the Canberra Raiders players which took place in June. Thank you to all the junior clubs in the region for their assistance in facilitating these visits and ensuring that the kids got the most out of the sessions. If you ask the players what they enjoy doing most in the community space, it's getting out to the juniors and passing and kicking the footy which is where it all started for them. We hope to be able to conduct these visits again in 2022.



Congratulations to all the clubs who engaged with the themed rounds this year including Indigenous Round, NAIDOC Week, Women in League Round and the Men of League Foundation Crazy Socks Round. You have laid a great platform for next season and what has been most pleasing is to see your committees and volunteers really driving these initiatives and recognising the needs of your Club based on day-to-day interactions.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Raiders Group for their continued support and commitment to develop rugby league in our region and ensuring that rugby league remains a strong, viable and sustainable sport. Thank you to Raiders Belconnen, Raiders Weston, Raiders Gungahlin, The Mawson Club and Queanbeyan Leagues Club. As we look to next season, CRRL will strive to continue to engage with our rugby league community and provide more opportunities to learn, improve and grow our inclusive game.

Sarah Williams
CDRL Community Program and Support Manager



ACCREDITATION REPORT

This 2021 Season started with excitement to return to what should have been a normal competition season of community rugby league.

In the Accreditation space, this year we have seen the most Sports Trainer courses facilitated in the Canberra region. This supports the growing of teams and players in all competition age groups from juniors to seniors.

This year also saw the implementation of the NRL's new Coaching Accreditation course framework, which focuses on age-specific coach training through differing eLearning modules and face-to-face workshops pending the playing age group.



trainers felt most responsible to ensure the COVID-19 safety rules and restrictions were followed at all club trainings and game days.

The NSWRL COVID-19 restrictions continued to impact all team officials on game day this season. CRRL thank all the senior and junior clubs for complying with the restrictions concerning players not sharing water bottles, specific water breaks and so on. The Sports Trainer role was significantly affected by these restrictions, as the

At the beginning of the year, NSWRL updated their concussion protocols and mandated all clubs to attend an education session to explain the new requirements. As a league, we understood the importance of the new concussion protocols, which also created a number of changes for sports trainers and the broader team officials' group. Throughout the year there were incidents when club personnel were confused and challenged the NSWRL concussion protocols – these teething issues were expected due to the significant control of the protocols. Through meetings and direct



communication, next season should see less confusion and challenges as clubs will be familiar with the protocols and processes for players to return safely to playing rugby league after a concussion injury.

To complement the NSWRL concussion protocols, the 18th Player Pilot rule was created for First Grade in the senior competitions. This rule allowed an 18th player (extra interchange) to sit on the team's bench as a concussion substitute player.

In summary, if a player was involved in a concussive event on the field, the 18th player was activated and used as one free interchange to replace the injured player, either on the bench or entered the field as the substitute. With all new pilot competition rules, challenges and misinterpretations arose. The rule wording and presentation will be amended to eliminate misinterpretations, and several education sessions will be conducted with our first-grade club committees, coaches and sports trainers to further explain the rule's meaning and process to follow.

This season will be the last season our junior club administrators utilise Operoo, an electronic injury reporting system, as the NRL's MySideline system has advanced the capacity to input injury reports internally. As only some clubs were using Operoo and others were submitting paper injury reports across both our junior and senior competitions, next season we look forward to utilising MySideline's new injury reporting system.

Overall, the 2021 season was challenging with new protocols and rule changes, however successful in establishing another year in a COVID-19 safe environment within our almost fully completed rugby league season. I look forward to working with all our accredited team officials during the new season in growing our competition across the region.

Jennifer Pilosio



INCLUSION PROGRAMS REPORT

2021 was a huge year for both our Inclusion programs. Our Canberra Region Wheelchair Rugby League (CRWRL) competition officially started earlier this year and this was also the first season our Score Raiders team competed against teams in our Under 14s Boys competition.

In February 2021, the inaugural season of Canberra Region Wheelchair Rugby League saw two newly developed teams regularly battle it out in the competition, with the Grand Final held in June.



Being the first competition in the Canberra region, players were very new to the sport, with some never played before or sat in a sports wheelchair. The players have significantly improved and gained more confidence in their game skills since regularly participating.

Throughout this first season our Rolling Raiders representative team was established. The team travelled to participate in an exhibition game after the Country v City match in Shellharbour, NSW. This game was against a Sydney NSW development team, with the Rolling Raiders winning the match.

From this representative match, NSW selectors identified four talent ID players to trial with the NSW squad in Sydney. The players unfortunately were not selected in the final team, however this was a huge achievement of the program to have developed these talent ID players.



In partnership with The Disability Trust, the Score Raiders program excelled this year with the team challenging local league teams in the Under 14s competition. It was great to see the Under 14s teams adapt their game skills and be very accommodating to the Score Raiders team.

The integration of the two competitions is an opportunity for young men to experience and learn how to work with people living with a disability, and a great learning curve for the Score participants to learn how to play fair and not win all the time. The Score Raiders are looking forward to competing against a new group of Under 14s boys in the competition next season.



Unfortunately, the Score Raiders were only able to travel to Wollongong once this year to play against the Score Dragons team due to lockdowns and travel restrictions. The Score Dragons won the game this year, however next season the Score Raiders will look for an exciting re-match to hopefully get the win. This year both teams had planned to play multiple games at GIO Stadium in Canberra, so we are looking forward to hosting the Score exhibition matches in 2022.

CRRL thanks everyone involved for their time, support, and commitment in growing our Inclusion Rugby League programs bigger and better this year – especially Chris Nightingale and the referees for always supporting these two programs, and to our CRWRL sub-committee members for dedicating extra time to grow the wheelchair rugby league program in the Canberra region.

We've had a milestone year and are looking forward to growing these two programs in the local community, Veteran community and throughout schools in the Canberra region.

Jennifer Pilosio



NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE SOUTHWEST NSW – CANBERRA GAME DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Firstly, we would like to thank all the clubs, schools and volunteers for their continued support of our programs throughout 2021. We appreciate all the hard work that you do and there would not be a game without your dedication. 2021 has once again been a challenging year for everyone. After a very strong beginning to the year where we were able to get many of our events and initiatives completed, NRL Game Development in Canberra came to a sudden stop in mid-August due to the ACT lockdown.

This, coupled with the NRL competition being relocated to Queensland and Shane Read temporarily moving up north with the Canberra Raiders as Biosecurity Liaison Officer, meant we unfortunately had to cancel a lot of programs and events to finish the end of the year. This included some League Stars programs, Sporting Schools sessions, Raiders Tag Primary School gala days and two new initiatives; a brand-new Club Connect program funded by the Australian Sports Commission and a new NRL League Touch gala day format for High School participation.

Our NRL South-West NSW Development team have once again conducted many events, competitions and education courses as Government protocols would allow. This included some new initiatives to ensure that players, coaches, referees, sports trainers and volunteers are assisted in participating in Community Rugby League.

The delivery of our flagship program League Stars once again proved a highlight, with 153 participants in 2021 across 15 programs. Thank you to the schools, clubs, teachers and volunteers who have helped promote and run League Stars. We look forward to working with you in 2022 to continue to provide opportunities for new and existing participants within our game.

We would also like to thank Jason Mathie and all the staff at the Canberra Raiders for their ongoing support. We are very fortunate to work in partnership with an NRL club and the fantastic support they provide for our region is greatly appreciated. Thanks to Mark Vergano, Deb Ford, Deb Charman, Sarah Williams, Rosie Harrison, Jen Pilosio and our Junior Rugby League clubs and committees. Our event and programs could not occur without your ongoing support and guidance.



Finally, a big thank you goes to our NRL Game Development Officers who help support our region; this includes Damian Kennedy, Andrew Lavaka, Chris Hanneman, Courtney Barratt, Emma James and Zac Masters as well as our manager James Smart and our Assistant Development Officers. Our GDO team work extremely hard to try and improve Rugby League in the region and their passion and dedication to the game is second to none.

The following is our 2021 information from a variety of NRL initiatives delivered across the Canberra region, which included:

- School Programs and Event Participation
- Education Courses and Training
- Junior League Retention
- League Stars
- Female Participation

These provide a snapshot of the depth of work that goes into the year by our team. If you would like any further detailed information, please contact our local Game Development Officers.

Once again thank you for a great 2021. Enjoy the break and we look forward to working with you in 2022.

Aaron Peat & Shane Read.
NRL Game Development, Canberra.

League Stars

- A total of 15 League Stars programs were offered throughout 2021, with 153 registered participants.
- A new initiative called Club Connect was introduced as a pilot program in Term Four. Two schools were approved for funding to run this program; however, we are unable to move forward at this stage due to COVID-19 restrictions.





School Competitions

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In 2021 we were able to conduct the majority of our Primary School gala day events, which we were unable to do in 2020. These included: Legends Shield in Bruce (14 teams), Phillip (25 teams) and Goulburn (20 teams), Sullivan Shield in Gungahlin (17 teams) and Phillip (19 teams) and NSWPSA Classic Shield in Bruce (5 teams).

*Raiders Tag in Gungahlin and Phillip were unable to go ahead due to the ACT lockdown and ACT Education restrictions.

HIGH SCHOOL

In 2021 we were able to conduct almost all our High School and College gala day events. These included: University Shield in Goulburn (4 teams), College Female League Tag (8 teams), Alan Tongue Cup 9's Male (17 teams) and Female (14 teams), College 9's (7 teams), John Allen Cup (3 teams), High School League Tag (9 teams), Buckley Shield (4 teams), The Rauter Shield (11 teams) and Bradley Clyde Shield (14 teams).

*Our new initiative of NRL League Touch in Lyneham and Phillip was unable to go ahead due to the ACT lockdown and ACT Education restrictions.



NRL Game Development Canberra also supports NRL staff on the Far South Coast and Riverina areas to conduct gala day events and school/community programs.

Results:

- Alan Tongue Cup 9's Under 16's Male – Melrose High School
- Alan Tongue Cup 9's Under 14's Male – St Mary MacKillop College, Canberra
- Alan Tongue Cup 9's Under 18's Female – Erindale College, Canberra



- Alan Tongue Cup 9's Under 16's – Mulwaree High School, Goulburn
- College 9's Under 18's Male – Lake Ginninderra College, Canberra
- College League Tag Under 18's Female – Erindale College, Canberra
- John Allen Cup Under 18's Male – Gungahlin College, Canberra
- High School League Tag Under 16's Female – Erindale College, Canberra
- High School League Tag Under 14's Female – St Clare's College, Canberra
- Bradley Clyde Shield Under 16's Male – Erindale College, Canberra
- The Rauter Shield Under 14's Male – St Francis Xavier College, Canberra

School Programs

- Canberra Raiders Community Blitz was run in late February. During this day, our NRL Game Development Officers visited over 6,500 students from 23 local schools with the entire Canberra Raiders squad. This was done within a three-hour time window.
- League Stars Inspire workshops were conducted across multiple schools in the Canberra Region.
- Ten Sporting Schools Programs where 1,123 school students participated in a Rugby League program across Primary School and High School.
- League Stars Introduction clinics were run within schools to promote a League Stars program in their area.
- Tackle Safe programs were delivered across Primary Schools in ACT & NSW to assist in preparation for gala day attendance.



Education

In 2021 our Coach Education structure underwent a remodel to make the content more user friendly and specific to each age group. This saw the old Modified Games Coach (MGC) and International Games Coach (IGC) titles removed and replaced with Community Coach 6-12 and Community Coach 13+.



Coaches are now required to complete online modules specific to the age groups they are coaching (eg. 13-15, 16-18, etc.), then attend an NRL Education workshop to complete their accreditation. In 2021 NRL Game Development conducted the following courses:

- Six Community Coach 6-12 workshops
- Four Community Coach 13-18 workshops
- Two Teachers Coaching workshops
- Ten League First Aid courses
- Nine Level One Sports Trainer courses
- Eight CPR Updates
- Seven Level One & Level Two Re-Accreditations

NRL Game Development, in collaboration with the Canberra Raiders, also conducted two Coaching Seminars, one for coaches in the 6-12 age group and another for coaches in the 13+ age group. These were held at the Raiders Centre in Braddon where Canberra Raiders NRL staff as well as NRL Game Development ran an indoor session followed by an outdoor practical and tour of the new Centre of Excellence.



NSWRL GROUP 16 REPORT

2021 was another year of many challenges for local Rugby League clubs. Unfortunately, COVID-19 put a halt on what was a very successful year for Rugby League across the Canberra Region and although the disappointment, there is plenty to be proud of from season 2021.

This past year saw CRRL participation numbers continue to trend upwards, with numbers across the region peaking at 6,174, the highest on record for CRRL. These achievements from clubs and CRRL are due to the hard work from many people across Clubs, Leagues, State bodies and NRL Game Development. A major factor in achieving growth is through the willingness of CRRL and the clubs to be innovative and look for new ways to drive growth in a very competitive market.

The development and progression of talented male and female players from within CRRL played a significant role in the success of all Monaro representative teams, culminating in local junior Terry Campese leading the Monaro Men's to a Country Championship. These achievements are not possible without the solid foundation provided by the CRRL and its clubs.

As pointed out in their report, NRL Game Development staff continue to drive growth across our competitions through NRL programs in Schools and local communities, competitions and events, as well as providing volunteers with the best possible learning experience through Coach & Safety education courses in partnership with Canberra Raiders staff. In an exciting initiative, we will in January see the first Senior Club Coach course run in the ACT, with Raiders High Performance staff and other industry leaders facilitating the delivery of content to aspiring coaches.

Season 2022 will see the introduction of new opportunities to drive growth through Tackle Ready and support competitive balance across senior competitions through the Player Points Index System. These initiatives have been carefully developed and ensure we continue to support each other in connection to the NSWRL 'One State Plan'.

Jake McDonald
League & Club Support
NSWRL

James Smart
Bidgee Region Manager
NSWRL



REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL WRAP

Country Championships

WOMEN'S MONARO SIDE



The Monaro Colts women's side reached week one of the finals before bowing out to the Riverina Bulls.

The Colts recorded a 12-12 draw in their opening game against the Western Rams, with Elly Hazelton and Bulou Baravilala both scoring tries. In round two the Monaro side claimed a 30-12 victory over the Macarthur Wests Tigers, with the Colts running in six tries.

Monaro played the Riverina Bulls in the semi-final, but fell just short, going down 12-8.

SQUAD:

Samara Afele, Victoria Alley, Emily Banks, Bulou Baravilala, Alanna Brooks, Jenna Cooke, Gabrielle Davis, Taylah Frost, Krystyana Haridemos, Elly Hazelton, Jess Howard, Ahlivia Ingram, Hollie Massey, Tamika Millard, Nirvana Ngan-Woo, Nirada Phonsaya, Zoe Podmore, Chelsea Stuckey, Ivy Tupai, Jacinta Williams



OPEN MEN'S



With the Country Championships moving to Open Men's this year, the Monaro Colts defeated the Illawarra South Coast Dragons in the Grand Final to win the competition.

The Colts were very impressive throughout the short competition, defeating the Western Rams 18-14 in round one and the Macarthur Wests Tigers 38-22 in round two.

Monaro played the Central Coast Roosters in the semi-final at Seiffert Oval in wet conditions. The scores were locked at 6-6 at half time, with Jake Wheeler and Bradley Prior both scoring in the second half to claim an 18-10 win.

In the grand final clash, Monaro defeated the Dragons 18-16 in what was a tight affair. The scores were locked at 16-16 in the second half before a Campese penalty goal put the Colts in front. They were able to hold on to claim an 18-16 win. William Peace, Jake Butler-Fleming and Tristan Eldridge were the try scorers for the Colts in that game.

SQUAD:

Joshua Ayers, Jake Butler-Fleming, Terry Campese, Tristan Eldridge, Joshua Hitchins, Isaiah Latu, Romann Leota, Joshua Mitchell, George Morseu, Zachary Patch, William Peace, Bradley Prior, Cooper Purcell, Brayden Robertson, Dillon Rota, Aisea Taholo, Atunaisa Tupou, Sonny Tupuola, Manu Vanisi, Jake Wheeler, Tre Holten-Williams, Aidan Woods



MONARO JUNIOR REPS

ANDREW JOHNS CUP (UNDER 16S)

The Monaro Colts Under 16's side had a great season in the Andrew Johns Cup, reaching the first week of finals.

The Colts notched up two wins in their opening two games, defeating the Riverina Bulls and Newcastle Maitland Region Knights.

Monaro fell to the Illawarra South Coast Dragons in round three before going on to win their next two games, with a 14-0 victory over the Western Rams and a 28-22 win over the Macarthur Wests Tigers.

The Colts side faced the Central Coast Roosters in the semi-finals, with the Roosters winning 18-0.

SQUAD:

Ethan Alaia, Xavier Cacciotti, Ben Castle, Mark Connors, Lane Davis, Rhys Djerke, Blake Hovi, William Johnston, Kyle McDermott, Max Mercer, Peter Milin, Thomas Penfold, Peter Soward, Jayden Svager, Israel Taiatini, Michael Theodoridis, Sean Ward, Jordan Williams, Jayden Wolfe, Gus Young

LAURIE DALEY CUP (UNDER 18'S)

The Monaro Colts Under 18's side also had a wonderful season in the Laurie Daley Cup, claiming five wins and a draw before bowing out in the first week of the finals.

The Colts started the season with three straight wins, with victories over the Riverina Bulls, NMR Knights and the Illawarra South Coast Dragons. They recorded a 22-22 draw in round four against the Western Rams before bouncing back in round five against the Macarthur Wests Tigers with a 34-12 victory.

The Colts played the Central Coast Roosters in week one of the finals. The scores were locked a 6-6 at half-time before the Roosters scored the match-winner in the second half to win 12-6.

SQUAD:

Jack Anderson, Dylan Campbell, Thomas Carey, Ryan Castle, Samuel Cooper, Joseph Delle, Ty Dowdle, James Dyball, Mitchell Evans, Jayden Ford, Cayden Hill, Jayde Howard, Keegan Kenny, Tyrel Kimori-Edmond, Joshua Latham, Alan Malibe, Jack McDougall, Noah Mills, Jacob Piper, Kane Rushton, Riley Shaw, Mitchell Swadling, Cole Taylor, Joshua Weir, Matthew Wheatley



CANBERRA RAIDERS JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVES

HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP UNDER 17'S



It was a tough season for the Canberra Raiders Harold Matthews side in 2021. The Raiders were unable to record a win throughout the season. Their closest game came against the North Sydney Bears in round four. Canberra were trailing 14-12 at half-time but the Bears proved too strong in the second half, with the final score 28-16.

SQUAD:

Darcy Bush, Jack Craig, Cooper Emonson, Jordan Eti, Sam Gash, Michael Griffiths, Jacob Haeata, Blake Halls, Owen Hromow, Siamani Leuluai, Noah Marcantonio, Hunter Marsh, Noah Martin, Leeroy Murray, Jack Neyland, Matthew Parkes, Deekon Parsons, Brock Sing, Clay Sing, Kaide Steele, David White, Harley Young



S.G. BALL CUP UNDER 19S



The Canberra Raiders S.G. Ball side had a very impressive season, capped off by winning the Grand Final.

The Raiders kicked off the competition with five straight wins, scoring over 50 points in two of those matches. They lost to the Parramatta Eels in round six before defeating the Dragons by 50 points in round seven. They then went down to the Roosters 30-24 in round nine.

Canberra faced the Bulldogs in their elimination final, putting on a terrific performance to win 44-10. The Raiders went on to play the Manly Sea Eagles in the semi-final. The men in green led 20-12 at half-time and managed to hold on in the second half to claim a 20-18 victory.

The Raiders took on the Illawarra Steelers in the Grand Final. The Canberra side led 12-10 at half-time, with tries to Caleb Esera and Sione Moala. Raider's fullback Jack Sandford scored first in the second half to give his side an 18-10 lead. The Steelers hit back to close the gap to 18-14 but the Raiders were able to hold on to claim the grand final win.

SQUAD:

Michael Asomua, Josh Billing, Deakin Bright, Abai Chatfield, JJ Clarkson, Joseph Delle, Caleb Esera, Wilson Hamblin, Blake Martin, Jayden McLauchlan, Sione Moala, Joshua Pokoney, Mitchell Prest, Kane Smith, Noah Saddler, Jack Sandford, Xavier Savage, Kane Smith, Mitchell Spencer, Toby Thorburn, Clay Webb, Connor Williams



TARSHA GALE CUP UNDER 19 GIRLS



The Canberra Raiders Tarsha Gale Cup side finished the 2021 season in seventh place on the ladder, recording one win and two draws.

The Raiders side had a slow start to the season, dropping their first three games. The side recorded their first win in round four, with a 24-12 victory over the Bulldogs.

Canberra were defeated by the Knights 30-12 in round five before recording two straight draws against the Eels (16-16) and the Dragons (26-26). Their final match of the season was a 26-12 loss to the Indigenous Academy Roosters.

SQUAD:

Ma'ata Alai Lokeni, Valasi Asomua, Felicity Bell, Jaxon Blackhall, Krystal Blackwell, Molly Carr, Cassius Delamere, Maddie Dodson, Alannah Dummett, Geena Elliot, Jackie Eneliko, Carly Heyman, Teliya Heteraka, Amelia Kiriui, Hayley Liddle, Makayla Morris, Chloe Muggleton, Klaudia Osztrekovichs, Shanae Pope, Grace Sullivan, Grace Tai, Madysen Tooth, Carly Wilkin



REFEREES REPORT

2021 – Unfortunately another year disrupted due to weather and COVID-19 restrictions.

We commenced the year full of hope that competitions would return to some form of normality and consistency. It was pleasing to see the local Canberra Region Rugby League competitions return with increased numbers overall and therefore challenge us every weekend. It was a very trying year to appoint match officials to all games throughout the year and a real challenge to our members. This “challenge” presented an opportunity for a number of members to progress to officiating at higher levels, which I am happy to say our members took with open hands and performed above expectations. This certainly puts us in good stead for 2022 and beyond. We continued to recruit well for the Referees Foundation One courses with 21 new candidates undertaking the course.



COVID-19 restrictions continued throughout the season and Community rugby league adapted to the challenges. Unfortunately, the competitions were cut short due to the Delta variant and both the ACT and NSW went into lockdown just a few weeks before the finals series. The on-field performances of our members were going to present our Appointments Panels with some difficult decisions going into the Finals. These difficult decisions will now pass onto 2022.

Training was very well attended during the year and the change to Wednesday night appeared to be a great success with additional juniors participating and benefiting from the skills sessions undertaken. Thank you to NSWRL for allowing our Association to utilise the facilities at Bruce. The ability to run indoor sessions using the AV system is an invaluable tool, especially in the unpredictable Canberra weather.

We have been extremely lucky to have organisations such as the Canberra Raiders and Canberra Region Rugby League actively assist in recruitment and development of referees. The support from the CRRL



staff, especially General Manager Mark Vergano and Chairman Gary Green cannot be under-estimated. Any incidents involving unsavoury conduct by players, officials or spectators was swiftly dealt with by the League. The working relationship between our Association and the League continues to be strong. Thanks are also extended to the other CRRL staff Deb Charman (Senior Competition) and Deb Ford (Junior Competition) who assisted with changes to game times etc. Without this assistance there would have been several competition level games throughout the season where we would not have been able to supply match officials.

The NSWRL and CRL Referees Associations are expected to vote to amalgamate prior to the commencement of the 2022 season. This will present new opportunities for our members and Association to navigate.

On a local level, all games were very competitive and every match official represented CDRLRA to a very high level. During the year it was encouraging to see so many senior referees providing support to our newer members. Planning has already commenced for 2022. Some highlights involving members at the representative level were:

- Gage Miles – Touch Judge SG Ball Grand Final
- Ben Seppala (Referee), Liam Richardson & Tristan Brooker (Touch Judges) officiated the Australian Defence Force game as the lead-in match for the Anzac Test.
- Braiden McIntosh – Referee CRL Open Country Championship
- Phil Henderson – Touch Judge State of Origin games
- Ben Cummins – set the record for the greatest number of NRL games refereed.

**RAIDERS
GUNGAHLIN**



I would like to thank all members of Canberra Referees Association for their cooperation throughout the year with the many changes and challenges we were presented with. The Association was very fortunate to sign a major sponsorship agreement with Mayner & Cochrane, Appliance Repair Specialist to the Canberra Region. Combined with sponsorship from the Canberra Raiders (Gungahlin Raiders Club) and grants from NSWRL Referees Assn this has left our Association in a very stable financial position. We look forward to expanding our relationships with all parties in 2022.





CRRL JUDICIARY REPORT

After a very difficult and challenging 2020 season it was very pleasing to have all senior and junior teams back in the competition, but as with 2020 there were still many challenges for clubs, officials, players and spectators to manage under COVID requirements.

As was the case last year all hearings were conducted via Zoom meetings with a small number of minor technical issues delaying some hearings for a short period of time.

It is neither appropriate nor helpful to compare this year's statistics with last year's as there were substantial differences in the lengths and make-up of the CRRL competitions in these two years. Should comparisons need to be drawn for trends sake then 2019 would be a more appropriate choice.

This season there were 105 send off and citing offences in total across both the senior and junior competitions compared to 77 in 2019. Of these offences, seven were dismissed, one withdrawn and a further seven where a send-off was deemed sufficient penalty. As was the case in 2019 striking was the most prevalent charge followed by offensive language directed at match officials, contrary conduct charges and dangerous throws. Of the 105 send off and citing charges brought before the MRC, 79 of these were committed in the senior competitions.

The junior competition up to and including under 12's had five offences where the league issued stand down notices. The 13 to 17 years competitions had a total of 20 offences requiring the offenders to appear before the judiciary. Of these 16 occurred in the age groups 13 - 15 years.

The application of the NSWRL Tough Love In League Policy to all competitions run and sanctioned by the CRRL from the 16 July 2021 saw mandatory penalties applied for a number of offences, some of which not only had individual player suspensions, but also team consequences. Abuse of match officials and entering field of play from the bench both attracted loss of competition points.

Given there were seven incidences attracting loss of competition points this season, clubs in 2022 should be encouraged to be cognizant of their responsibilities to ensure that players, team officials and



spectators/parents are clearly and regularly reminded about the NSWRL TLIL Policy and the outcomes for individuals and teams.

There was also one spectator offence proven under the NSWRL TLIL Policy that involved a substantial suspended fine along with remediation and training requirements for the club involved. This again highlights club's obligation and responsibility to ensure player safety and appropriate spectator behaviour on game days.

Thanks should go to judiciary chairpersons Jonathon Hanton, Bill Logan and Chris Gribble along with panel members John Cooper, Danny Roper, Bernard Powderly, Geoff Milczuk and Gary Dunbar. These individuals conducted themselves extremely professionally and willingly gave a substantial number of their Wednesday evenings to ensure that hearings were able to be held in a timely fashion.

Yours in League,

Glyn Sargent
2021 Match Review Coordinator



CRRL HISTORY REPORT

As per the last report the History Project was created to gather, preserve and display our historical footprint in Queanbeyan, Canberra and the surrounding regions, including Monaro division - this is to co-inside with our centenary in 2023.

The formed committees of the Canberra Region and the Monaro consist of:

Mark Vergano, Gary Green, Tom Ebsworth, Barry Cranston, Chris Nightingale (referees), Katrina Fanning (women), Graham Willard (women), Dale Huxtable (indigenous) and myself.

Alan Wilton, David Skinner and Gary Dunbar have yet to meet formally due to the COVID situation.

We expect to meet early 2022 and move forward on our objectives which encompasses:

- To gather, preserve, catalogue and display old photos, teams, jumpers and any memorabilia from our past.
- Develop and maintain a history web site for the CRRL and Monaro regions that can be readily accessed by the public.
- To promote and develop this great game through our history as we approach our centenary.

Initiatives

- Discuss and name teams of the decade from 1970 through to the current time.
- Highlight representative achievements from our very beginnings
- Consultation with the Canberra Raiders in their upcoming 40-year celebrations and our community partnering in this event.

Steve Troth
History Project
CRRL



MEDIA REPORT

The media space continued to grow this year, with a brand-new website, new initiatives, and the return of BarTV and the CRRL podcast.

CRRL underwent a website restructure at the start of the year, creating a new website to increase user friendliness and allow the use of components such as embedded video, etc. The CRRL website is now housed within the Canberra Raiders website, further strengthening our relationship with the Raiders whilst maintaining our own identity. The website was launched in March this year and has been successful with high traffic numbers and users.

We celebrated Women in League round in early August, speaking to several influential people throughout our rugby league community. This included Dzintra Jones from the West Belconnen Juniors club, Harden Hawkettes player Emma James, the Tuggeranong Buffaloes



junior club and the Raiders Manager of Pathways & Performance. It is wonderful to celebrate the growth of the women's game.

This year also saw the return of the CRRL podcast, renamed the Rub of the Green. Co-hosted by James 'Sully' Sullivan and myself, the podcast is recorded weekly during the season and covers everything that is happening in and around our competitions. This season we had just over 2,400 listens, with the podcast proving popular on our social media pages too. Thank you to all the guests who appeared on the show this year, and to Sully for doing a fantastic job co-hosting.

BarTV were back in 2021, with a live-stream of the Match of the Round and highlight packages each week. Over 66,000 people viewed the live-stream matches on Facebook this season, while the weekly highlight packages of all senior grades attracted over 183,000 total views across the year. Thank you to BarTV for their support across the season, we truly enjoy working alongside you.



Finally, a big thank you to all the clubs for providing players, coaches, etc. for media commitments throughout the season, including weekly media opportunities with the local media. The availability is wonderful and provides great promotion for all our competitions.

Rosie Harrison
CRRL Digital & Media Co-Ordinator

Top Five BarTV Live-stream Match of the Round

Live Stream Game	Round & Date	Number of Views
1. Newcastle Rebels v Canberra Region Rugby League	Representative game - 26/6/2021	10,000
2. Goulburn City Bulldogs v West Belconnen Warriors	Round 1 - 11/4/2021	6,300
3. Goulburn City Bulldogs v Queanbeyan Blues	Round 14 - 1/8/2021	5,300
4. Gungahlin Bulls v Queanbeyan Blues	Round 6 - 22/5/2021	4,800
5. Yass Magpies v Tuggeranong Bushrangers	Round 3 - 24/4/2021	4,500



Top Ten Website Articles 2021

Article	Pageviews	Avg. Time of Page (min)
1. Raiders Development Squad Trials	4,511	2:50
2. Update from CRRL on current COVID-19 situation	4,371	3:08
3. Canberra District U14's Boys Extended Development Squad 2021	4,273	4:31
4. Canberra Under 15's Development Squad 2021	3,780	4:04
5. CRRL Minor Premiers & Club Championships announced	3,285	3:09
6. Message from CRRL General Manager on unfolding COVID situation	2,740	3:13
7. Canberra District U16/17 Girls Extended Development Squad 2021	2,463	2:13
8. COVID Update: ACT Sport & Recreation	2,373	1:54
9. George Tooke Shield 2021 Draws released	2,338	1:48
10. Canberra Region Rep Games Return	2,333	3:19

CRRL Social Media Channels

Facebook: 9,117

Instagram: 4,105

Twitter: 560





NEWS FROM 2021

CRRL reaches all-time high in participation numbers



What a year 2021 has been. Whilst the season has come to an early end, there are still many highlights to celebrate.

CRRL has reached an all-time high in participation numbers, up 10% on 2019 figures. There are currently 5,798 players across all our competitions, with junior participation making up approx. 78% of this number, along with 22% of senior players.

Female participation has also continued to grow in our league tag and tackle competitions in all age groups, representing 20% of all participation.

On an average weekend roughly 157 games are played between 350 teams. CRRL thank all 1501 registered volunteers who volunteer their time to help and support our teams and clubs in ensuring our players can participate in rugby league each week.

Thank you to the parents and support personnel who also help facilitate our game days at our 35 home ground venues each weekend – people facilitating the canteens, gate keepers, ground manager roles, clock timing and score board duties, team managers, leaguesafers, team mascots and everyone in between.



The number of fully accredited coaches, sports trainers and referees has grown since 2019. There are now 835 coaches, 101 referees, and 312 sports trainers within CRRL. It is important to note that our games are unable to commence without an accredited coach, referee and sports trainer all present on the sideline.

This is what makes our sport significantly advanced and ensures safe practices for participants to enjoy and play our contact sport. All accreditations are updated regularly to ensure our accredited personnel are up to date on all aspects specific to rugby league.

The CRRL's ability to embrace cultural diversity is also highlighted in the Infographic, with an increase of Indigenous participants representing about ten percent of our total participation numbers, along with 459 multicultural participants in total.

The introduction of the new inclusion programs of Wheelchair Rugby League and the Score Raiders has contributed to roughly 60 people who identify as having a disability playing in other variations of our game. In conjunction with the Disability Trust, this season saw the Score Raiders play in our CRRL U14s junior competition, as well as battle it out against the Score Dragons in Wollongong. 2022 will also mark the second year of our Canberra based Wheelchair Rugby League competition – wheelchair rugby league is for all players to participate and join a team, whether players are regular wheelchair users or not.

Our in-school participation numbers have also risen to reaching over 10,000 students over both primary and secondary schools in the Canberra regions. Schools can participate in the following programs: Canberra Raiders Community Blitz, Sports Schools programs, League Stars, Holiday Clinics, Tackle Safe, and INSPIRE workshops. An additional 3,000 students have the opportunity to participate in one of our school competitions such as, the Legends Shield, Sullivan Shield, Alan Tongue Cup 9's, etc.

Each weekend our games are played across our Canberra region, from Harden, Boorowa, Cootamundra, Goulburn, Crookwell, Queanbeyan, Bungendore, Cooma, Yass and of course all throughout north and south Canberra.

Whilst the season has unfortunately ended abruptly, we want to thank everyone involved in making it happen and for supporting Season 2021.



George Tooke Shield Rep Games Return



CRRL are happy to announce the return of George Tooke Shield representative matches, with two games set to be played next weekend.

A GTS Ladies League Tag team and a Men's team will take on Woodbridge Cup representative sides on Saturday 15 May. It will be the first George Tooke Shield Men's rep team since 2000.

Tony Rayner, the George Tooke Shield representative on the CRRL board, says he is excited the games are happening again.

"I was actually surprised at all the enthusiasm from all the players. They are all keen to get involved and play," Rayner said.

"It's really important and it will be good to show everyone how strong our competition is."

The Woodbridge Cup team will include players from the Riverina and Group 10.

CRRL General Manager Mark Vergano says that it is a great opportunity for the players involved.

"It's wonderful to see the GTS rep games back on the footy calendar this year," Vergano said.



"It's a great opportunity for all the players that play in the George Tooke Shield to compete at a higher level and test themselves against the best players from other regions.

"These are the first steps towards hopefully more games in the future."

In the past, League Tag representative teams from George Tooke Shield, Canberra Raiders Cup and Group 16 would compete in a tri-series each year. Players no longer have this opportunity, so this upcoming rep game serves as an important opportunity for the Tag players too.

Both matches will be played at McLean Oval in Harden on Saturday 15 May, with the League Tag match to kick off at 1:15pm and the Men's match to follow at 2:30pm.



Rolling Raiders win first representative match



The Rolling Raiders wheelchair rugby league team played their first representative match over the weekend in Shellharbour, recording a 38-10 victory.

The team played against another development representative team, made up of players from the Sydney second tier competition. Our Rolling Raiders team was very eager to play in their first representative match to show off their skills and our talent pool in the Canberra region.

Playing after the City v Country clash, the Rolling Raiders were off to a great start with Chris O'Brien scoring his first try of the game in the third minute. Soon after, Bradley Burns followed suit and scored a try in the fourth minute, and a successful conversion.

Moving into the final minutes of the first half, Zac Carl scored a hat-trick,



giving his side a 22-10 lead at the half-time break.

The Sydney Development made a comeback in the second half, scoring two tries. But Raiders captain Toby Popple scored a quick try in the 29th minute, extending the Rolling Raiders lead to 26-10.

Close to the final buzzer, Chris O'Brien scored his second try of the match, making the score 32-10, before Jimmy Knight sealed his team's win by scoring a try and a successful conversion in the 49th minute, the final score 38-10.

Rolling Raiders 38 (Tries: Chris O'Brien (8), Bradley Burns (4), Zac Carl (12), Toby Popple (4), Jaimz Knight (4) ; Goals: Bradley Burns (2), Chris O'Brien (2), Jaimz Knight (2) def. Sydney Development team 10.

The Rolling Raiders had the help and guidance of Brad Grove, who coached the team shortly after captaining the Country side in their victory over City in the previous game. After the Rolling Raiders game, it was great to see the team being directed by Grove to challenge and take back their advanced skills and training to the local Canberra region competition.



Canberra Region Wheelchair Rugby League awarded CBR Sport Award



CRRL are very pleased and excited to be awarded the Minister for Sport and Recreation's Award for Inclusion at the CBR Sports Awards last night.

The Canberra Region Rugby League team was presented this award during the virtual awards night and had a surprise visit from Minister Yvette Berry to present the award herself. We are all very proud of this achievement, and for our program to be recognised at the 2021 CBR Sport Awards.

Our Canberra Region Wheelchair Rugby League (CRWRL) program has significantly developed over the past 18 months in our region as well as across southern NSW. We are excited for what the future holds for our adaptive, all-inclusive sport in our region.

CRWRL Program Coordinator, Jen Pilosio, said she was very proud of the achievements of all players throughout the year.

"It's been a great experience watching all the players develop their wheelchair skills each week during training and competition," Pilosio said.



“At the beginning of the year, the majority of our players had never played an adaptive sport before, so to see the development has been amazing.

”By the end of the year we had representative players travelling to compete at the higher level in our game, so we want to continue building the sport here in the Canberra region and provide that pathway for the sport.

“We need more players and volunteers, so please reach out to be involved in our rugby league community.”

Wheelchair Rugby League is an all-inclusive sport which can be played by all people, no matter of gender, age, skill, or ability – people do not have to be a regular wheelchair user to participate in the sport.

The CRRL team would like to thank our great players, volunteers, and referees who have continued to participate in competition days over the past year. This year was our inaugural competition, and it has already been very successful in developing local players.

The representative Rolling Raiders team played in a rep game against a Sydney team earlier this year, while local players were scouted to trial for the NSW Wheelchair Rugby League team, to then play in the State of Origin.

Our CRWRL program wouldn't have been as successful as it was without the driving force, our hard-working sub-committee, which has helped developed the strategic direction of the program. Our sub-committee members include: Kim and Matt Collins, Jake Naylor, Tiffany White and Gary Green. These members volunteer and commit their time to support our players on game day as coaches, sports trainers and other team officials.

We would also like to thank our sponsors of the program, MPS Travel + Tours and the Lord's Taverners. Thank you for supporting the wheelchair rugby league program and being as excited for the future of our all-inclusive game as we are.

Thank you also to our Canberra Raiders Player Ambassadors for our CRWRL program, Tom Starling and Trey Mooney. It was great to have our Player Ambassadors celebrate the Inclusion Award win last night at



the Raiders Centre in Braddon, alongside with the program sponsors, Rolling Raiders players and the CRRL team.

2021 has been a great year filled with sporting achievements across our region. Thank you to ACT Sport and Recreation for facilitating the virtual CBR Sport Awards event during these trying and uncertain times.

In the New Year, we look forward to working with other adaptive sports in Canberra to excel and grow all levels of participation in our all-inclusive sports.



LIFE MEMBERS

Canberra District Rugby League (Raiders)

Les McIntyre*

George Tooke*

Bill Sullivan*

Don Furner Snr*

Gerry Edwards*

Mal Meninga

Noel Bissett*

John McIntyre

Tony Wood

Canberra Region Rugby League

Michael Clarke

Cliff Stevens

Peter Cox

Bob Gresham

Graham Johnston

Rhonda Carson

Karen Ebsworth

Tom Ebsworth

Chris Nightingale

*deceased



OBITUARIES

Alex Rodham



Alex Rodham was born in Bungendore and at eight years old he joined the Bungendore Tigers junior club.

Alex never pulled on another jumper other than a Bungendore Tigers one.

He went right through the Bungendore Juniors, before reaching the senior level with the Bungendore Tigers Seniors club in 2009.

The senior level was where Alex flourished. He was always the first player to be picked in the side and was a coach's dream.

He was always the first at training, trained hard and could be chosen in any position the coach required without complaint. In most games Alex picked up Best & Fairest votes.



During his senior football years, Alex played 146 games. He was awarded the club's Best & Fairest award and Players Player award during those years.

Alex was a member of the 2015 premiership side and in his last game for the Tigers he led the side out as captain in the 2020 Grand Final.

Unfortunately, he broke his leg during this game and was diagnosed with Sarcoma cancer a couple of months later.

Alex showed his true fighting spirit during his treatment but the cancer was too aggressive and Alex lost the battle on the 18th February 2021.

His funeral was a testimony to Alex with over 1000 people attending to show their respect.

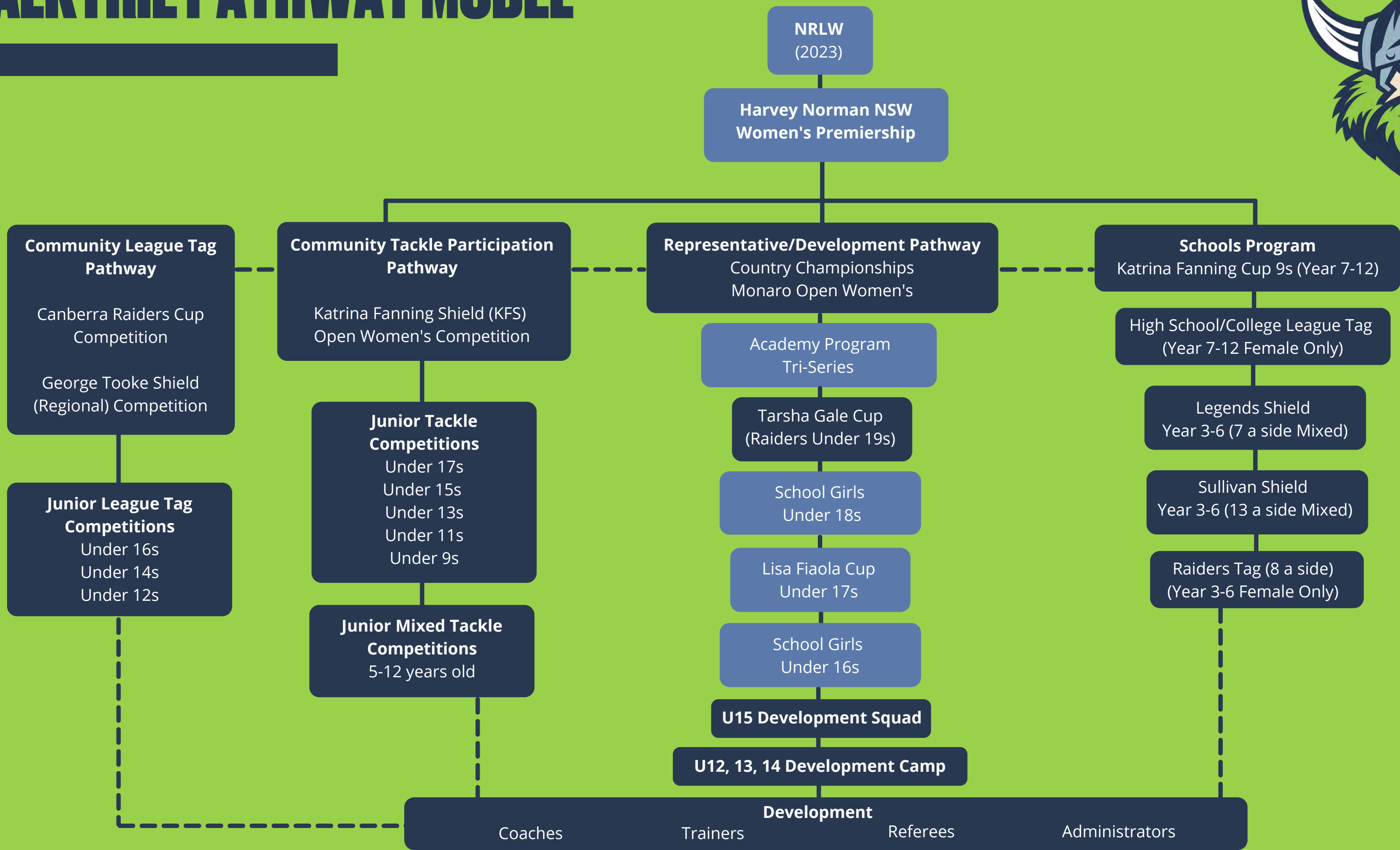
Alex made friends easily and when you were his friend you were a friend for life.

He enjoyed spending time with his family and loved spoiling his sisters to no end. He loved hunting, his footy and a few quite beers.

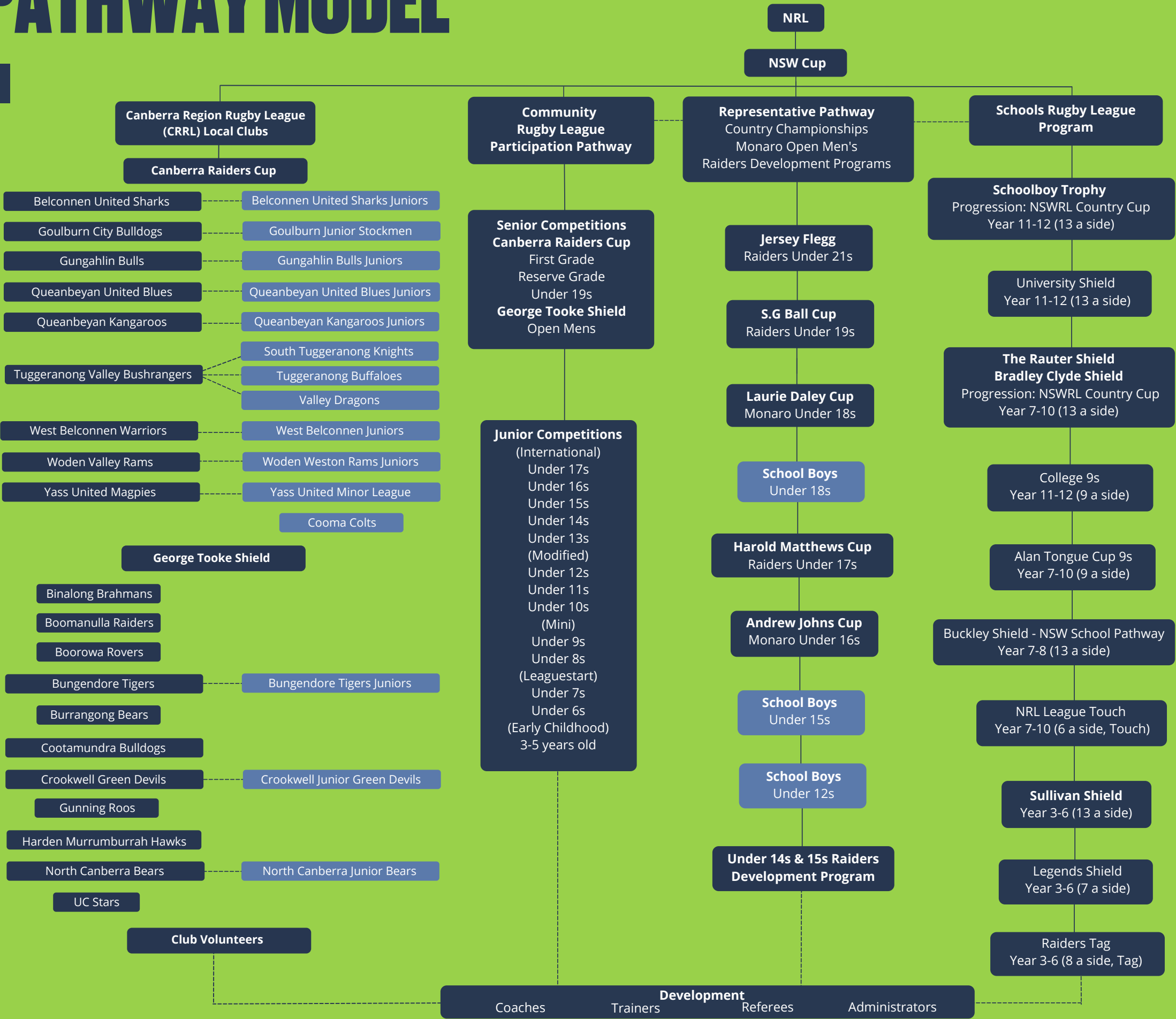
Alex was born a Tiger and he fought like a Tiger. In passing his Tiger spirit lives on, going through as a Bungendore Tiger Junior, being able to play 146 games and captain the Senior side.

Alex will be remembered as the greatest Bungendore Tiger of them all.

VALKYRIE PATHWAY MODEL



CRRL/RAIDERS PATHWAY MODEL



CANBERRA REGION RUGBY LEAGUE



COMMUNITY RUGBY LEAGUE PARTICIPATION 2021

TOTAL PLAYERS

5,798

↑ 10.83% on 2019 numbers

MALE PLAYERS

4,648

FEMALE PLAYERS

1,150

↑ 26.5% on 2019 numbers

AGE GROUP BREAK DOWN

19+ years

22%

27%

13-18 years

51%

4-12 years

FEMALE REPRESENTATION

20%



JUNIORS

SENIORS

LEAGUE TAG

WHEELCHAIR

TACKLE

SCORE

Each weekend, approximately **157** games are played across **35** venues.
These games are facilitated by our **1,501** club volunteers.

35
CLUBS

15 JUNIORS

20 SENIORS

350
TEAMS

291 JUNIORS

59 SENIORS



835

ACCREDITED
COACHES

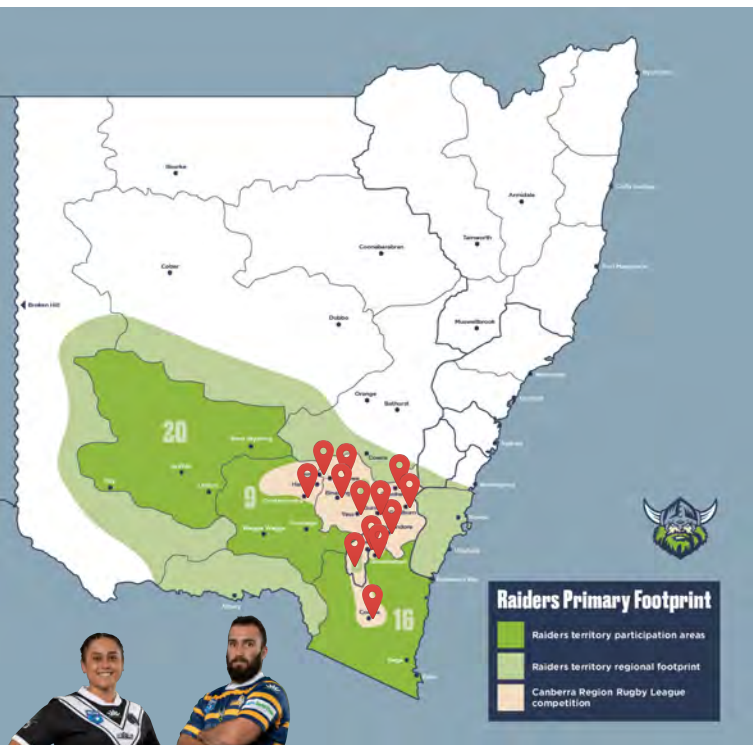
101

REFEREES

312

ACCREDITED
SPORT TRAINERS

OUR REACH



CANBERRA REGION RUGBY LEAGUE



INDIGENOUS PARTICIPANTS



757 *

MULTICULTURAL PARTICIPANTS



459 *

PARTICIPANTS WITH A DISABILITY



98 *

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL EVENTS



2,739

*Participants who have identified. All statistics obtained through MySideline registration reports.

VISIT [RAIDERS.COM.AU/CRRL](https://raiders.com.au/crrl) TO FIND YOUR LOCAL CLUB

3 December 2021

The Committee of Members
Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated
164 Monaro Street
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Private and confidential

2021 Audit of Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated (the Association)

Dear Committee of Members

In order to carry out our duties and responsibilities as auditors, Ernst & Young is required by ASA 260 "Communication of Audit Matters to Those Charged With Governance" ("ASA 260"), to communicate to you setting out the following matters in respect of the audit of the above named entity.

Our fieldwork is substantially complete, and we anticipate issuing an unqualified opinion subject to:

- ▶ receipt of the signed management representation letter; and
- ▶ the Committee of Members adopting the financial report.

Qualitative aspects of accounting practices and financial reporting

Key audit and accounting issues were discussed and agreed at our closing audit meeting with Warwick Burr during the audit fieldwork. In our view the following matter warrants reporting to you in writing.

Going concern

Consistent with prior years, the Association is heavily reliant on grant funding from Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited (CDRL) to continue its operations. The predominant reason for this is due to the entity's main purpose being promoting Rugby League rather than generation of profit. The Committee of Members have received a letter of continued financial support from CDRL and therefore do not consider there to be a material uncertainty as to the Associations' ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements provide adequate disclosure regarding the appropriateness of the going concern basis of accounting for the financial statements.

Key areas of audit focus

Whilst we perform sufficient audit procedures on all material areas, we focus our audit effort on those areas we deem to be at a greater risk of material misstatement. Our key areas of audit focus were:

- ▶ Revenue - we agreed a sample of revenue transactions back to the signed contracts/approved gift/grant determinations and deposits recorded on the bank statement throughout the period; and

- ▶ Expenses and trade payables - we tested the key controls over the purchase to pay process including segregation of duties, satisfactory receipt of goods and services, payment approval and restrictions to change vendor master data. In addition, we traced a sample of transactions on either side of the balance date back to approved invoice/contract and cash payment to test the transactions were recorded in the appropriate period; and
- ▶ Payroll - we tested a sample of key controls over the payroll process including approval of commencements, terminations, pay variations and payment of weekly salary and wages. We also performed detailed substantive analytical procedures over payroll expenses based on headcount and salary and superannuation rates. In addition, we performed a recalculation of annual and long service leave provisions and tested the accuracy of key data used as inputs to these calculations.

Written Representations from Management

We have requested a letter of representation from management. A copy of this letter is available on request.

Internal control themes and observations

As part of our audit of the financial statements, we obtained an understanding of internal control sufficient to plan our audit and determine the nature, timing and extent of testing performed. Although our audit was not designed to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control, we are required to communicate to you significant deficiencies in internal control.

We have no matters to report to management in relation to significant deficiencies in internal control.

Independence

We confirm that we have complied with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code), and in our professional judgement, the engagement team and the Firm are independent.

We consider that our independence in this context is a matter that should be reviewed by both you and ourselves. It is therefore important that you consider the facts of which you are aware and come to a view. Should you have any specific matters that you wish to discuss, please contact us.

ASA 260 requires us to communicate with you on a timely basis on all significant facts and matters that bear upon our independence and objectivity. The aim of these communications is to ensure full and fair disclosure by us to those charged with governance on matters in which you have an interest.

Listed in Appendix A are Ernst & Young's key firm-wide policies and processes to maintain independence and objectivity.

Uncorrected misstatements

During the course of our audit, we did not identify any uncorrected misstatements.

Other matters

This letter has been prepared for the sole use of the Committee of Members, management and others within the Association. It must not be disclosed to a third party or quoted to or referred to without our written consent. No responsibility is assumed by Ernst & Young to any other person.



Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank your staff for the co-operation we have received throughout our audit. If there are any further matters which you wish to discuss concerning our audit, please do not hesitate to call us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Irene Tzavaras', written in a cursive style.

Irene Tzavaras
Partner
Ernst & Young

Cc Simon Hawkins, Raiders Group
Warwick Burr, Raiders Group

Appendix A

Ernst & Young (E&Y) has policies and procedures that instil professional values as part of Firm culture and ensure the highest standards of objectivity, independence and integrity are maintained. Listed below are some of the key policies and processes in place within E&Y Australia for maintaining objectivity and independence:

Financial Interests	Our Partners and client facing (technical) staff are prohibited from investing in any audit client around the World. Our partners and staff are required to confirm their compliance each year with our Firm's independence policies. We track this compliance through a Worldwide investment tracking system.
Training	Our partners and staff are required to undergo regular mandatory training on our independence and ethical policies and processes.
Partner rotation	The Firm has detailed policies on the rotation of the audit engagement partner and, in the case of listed clients: key audit partners, independent partners and "other partners and staff in senior positions".
Consultation	The Firm requires that the audit team consult with a panel of experienced partners on complex accounting and auditing matters.
Non-audit Services	Our audit engagement partners must approve any non-audit services offered to their clients. This allows them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ensure the objectives of the proposed engagement are not inconsistent with the objectives of the audit of the financial statement; and ▶ identify and assess any related threats to our objectivity; and ▶ assess the effectiveness of available safeguards to eliminate such threats or reduce them to an acceptable level. Where no satisfactory safeguards exist we do not carry out the non-audit service.
Ethics	Our global code of conduct provides an ethical framework on which we base our decisions and our actions—as individuals and as members of our global organisation. We have also established the EY/Ethics hotline which will allow any person, inside or outside of Ernst & Young, to report confidentially and anonymously any activity that they believe may involve conduct that is unethical, illegal, in breach of professional standards, or is otherwise inconsistent with our established policies or code of conduct.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
INCORPORATED
ABN 18 860 858 942

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED
ABN 18 860 858 942

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

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CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

**COMMITTEE'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

Your committee members submit the financial statements of Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated (the Association) for the financial year ended 31 October 2021.

Committee Members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Anthony Rayner	Jon Tucker
Christopher Nightingale	Phillip Watts
Danny Roper	Steve Troth
Gary Bergkotte	Thomas Ebsworth (resigned December 2020)
Gary Green (Chairman)	Yvette Croft
Greg Bell	Joe Stephens (appointed December 2020)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were that of organising, encouragement and promotion of rugby league.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The loss for the financial year ended 31 October 2021 amounted to \$72,789 (2020: profit \$74,170).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee.



Committee Member



Committee Member

Dated this 3rd day of December 2021

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and other income	2	519,006	430,980
Employee benefits expense		(241,038)	(186,255)
Depreciation expense		(3,777)	(4,727)
Administration expenses		(346,980)	(165,829)
(Deficit) / surplus for the period		(72,789)	74,170
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive (loss) / income attributable to members of the entity		(72,789)	74,170

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

	Retained Surplus Total \$
Balance at 1 November 2019	82
Surplus attributable to members	74,170
Balance at 31 October 2020	74,252
Balance at 1 November 2020	74,252
(Deficit) attributable to members	(72,789)
Balance at 31 October 2021	1,463

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED
ABN 18 860 858 942

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		26,498	87,150
Trade and other receivables	3	22,687	21,601
Inventories		210	2,624
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		49,395	111,375
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	4	6,650	6,696
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		6,650	6,696
TOTAL ASSETS		56,045	118,071
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	5	13,065	14,867
Provisions	6	41,517	15,895
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		54,582	30,762
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	6	-	13,057
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	13,057
TOTAL LIABILITIES		54,582	43,819
NET ASSETS		1,463	74,252
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		1,463	74,252
TOTAL EQUITY		1,463	74,252

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED**ABN 18 860 858 942****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	330,549	267,080
Operational grants received	190,000	175,000
Payments to suppliers & employees	(608,275)	(413,356)
Net GST remitted to the ATO	(12,395)	(15,766)
Government grants and subsidies	43,200	58,500
Interest received	-	86
Net cash flow (used in) / from operating activities	(56,921)	71,544
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(3,731)	-
Net cash (used in) / from investing activities	(3,731)	-
Net (decrease) / increase in cash equivalents	(60,652)	71,544
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	87,150	15,606
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	26,498	87,150

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

Corporate Information

The financial statements cover Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated (the Association) as an individual not-for-profit entity. Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated is an association incorporated in the ACT under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)*.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT)*.

The financial statements except for cashflow information have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 2 December 2021 by the Committee.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. With the agreement that Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited will continue to provide financial support as disclosed in Note 9, the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Accounting Policies

a) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Section 50-45 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

b) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

c) Plant and Equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation rate
Plant & Equipment	20% - 50%

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

d) Financial Instruments

The Association's financial instruments comprise cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables and are classified as either 'financial assets' or 'financial liabilities at amortised cost'.

Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below. Fair value represents the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Where available, quoted prices in a active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The Association applies a simplified approach in calculating expected credit losses (ECL's) for financial assets held at amortised cost by recognising a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date.

Amortised cost is calculated as:

- (i) the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition;
- (ii) less principal repayments;
- (iii) plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of the difference, if any, between the amount initially recognised and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method; and
- (iv) less any reduction for impairment.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Association no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed is recognised in profit or loss.

e) Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, the Association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

f) Employee Benefits

A provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the net present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash outflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

g) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at call with banks with a maturity of three months or less.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED
ABN 18 860 858 942

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

h) Revenue from Contracts with Customers

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised when control of the services are transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Association expects to be entitled in exchange for those services. The Association has generally concluded that it is the principal in its revenue arrangements because it typically controls the good or services before transferring them to the customer.

Sale of Goods

Revenue from sales of goods (including merchandise, equipment and final series ticket and canteen sales) comprises revenue earned from the sale of goods purchased for resale. Sales revenue is recognised when the control of goods passes to the customer which is at the time that the goods are physically transferred.

Rendering of services

Revenue from rendering of services (including sponsorships, nomination, playing, insurance and affiliation fees) is recognised over time, using an input method to measure progress towards complete satisfaction of the service, because the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Association.

i) Grants and subsidies

Assets arising from grants and subsidies are recognised at their fair value when the asset is received or receivable. These assets are generally cash but maybe property which has been donated or sold to the Association at significantly below its fair value.

j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

k) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

l) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

m) Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The Committee Members' estimates and judgments, where appropriate, are incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Association.

n) New Accounting Standards and Interpretations

(i) Changes in accounting policies and disclosures

All new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Board that are applicable to the current reporting period have been adopted and none have had a material impact on the entity.

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021**

	Note	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Note 2. Revenue and Other Income			
Revenue from Contracts with Customers			
Revenue from rendering of services		275,012	171,772
Revenue from sales of goods		19,794	11,222
		<u>294,806</u>	<u>182,994</u>
Other Income			
Grant income	11	190,000	175,000
Government grants and subsidies		34,200	72,900
Interest received		0	86
		<u>0</u>	<u>86</u>
Total Revenue		<u>519,006</u>	<u>430,980</u>
Note 3. Trade and Other Receivables			
Current			
Trade receivables		20,434	17,891
GST receivable		2,253	3,710
		<u>22,687</u>	<u>21,601</u>
Note 4. Plant and Equipment			
Plant and Equipment - at cost		50,636	46,905
Accumulated depreciation		(43,986)	(40,209)
		<u>6,650</u>	<u>6,696</u>
Movements in carrying amounts			
Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of plant and equipment between the beginning and end of the current financial year:			
	Plant & Equipment		
Balance at 1 November 2019	11,423		
Additions	-		
Depreciation expense	(4,727)		
Carrying amount at 31 October 2020	<u>6,696</u>		
Balance at 1 November 2020	6,696		
Additions	3,731		
Depreciation expense	(3,777)		
Carrying amount at 31 October 2021	<u>6,650</u>		
Note 5. Trade and Other Payables			
Trade payables	(39)		-
Accrued expenses	13,104		14,867
	<u>13,065</u>		<u>14,867</u>

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED
ABN 18 860 858 942

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Note 6. Provisions		
<i>Employee benefits</i>		
Opening balance	28,952	20,933
Increase in provisions during the year	12,565	8,019
Closing Balance	41,517	28,952
Analysis of Total Provisions		
Annual leave - current	41,517	15,895
Long service leave - non-current	-	13,057
	41,517	28,952

Note 7. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

As at balance sheet date the Association has no known contingent liabilities or contingent assets.

Note 8. Events after Balance Sheet Date

There have been no events subsequent to reporting date which require disclosure in the financial statements.

Note 9. Economic Dependency

The Association is reliant on funding from Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited to assist with its continuing operations. Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited has committed to the continuing financial support for the Association.

Note 10. Key Management Personnel Compensation

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity is considered key management personnel.

The key management personnel of the Association did not receive any remuneration direct from the Association during the year.

Note 11. Related Party Transactions

a) Transactions with Related Parties

During the year ended 31 October 2021, the Association received grants totalling \$190,000 from Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited (2020: \$175,000). The Association is dependent on these grants which were made to allow the Association to continue to operate as a going concern.

During the year ended 31 October 2021, the Association also made purchases from Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited totalling \$10,000 (2020: \$10,000).

The controlling entity of the Association is Canberra District Rugby League Football Club Limited.

Note 12. Association Details

The principal place of business and the registered office of business of the association is:
 Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated
 164 Monaro Street
 QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

CANBERRA REGION JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED

ABN 18 860 858 942

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Committee the financial statements as set out:

1. Present a true and fair view of the financial position of Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated as at 31 October 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (ACT)*.
2. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Committee Member

Committee Member

Dated this 3rd day of December 2021

Independent auditor's report to the members of Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Canberra Region Junior Rugby League Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Statement by Members of the Committee.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the Association as at 31 October 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (ACT)*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The committee members are responsible for the other information. The other information is the committee member's 's report accompanying the financial report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Members of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee members are responsible for the preparation the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (ACT)* and for such internal control as the Committee members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee of members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ▶ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ▶ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- ▶ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Committee members.
- ▶ Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committee members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ▶ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



We communicate with the Members of the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ernst & Young

Ernst & Young

Irene Tzavaras

Irene Tzavaras
Partner

Registered Company Auditor Number: 528734
03 December 2021