



Fellow Members

The club has reached the end of the 2020/21 financial year, so the Board wanted to take the opportunity to comment on the year and reflect on what has been achieved. Some of the financial information is of course subject to audit and full accounts will be presented to our AGM in October.

Firstly though, we all continue to live in the shadow of the COVID virus and this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. The club continues to operate its COVID management plan which, by now, you will all be familiar with it, and the club will do its best to ensure members and guests comply with COVID rules. Foremost, our community needs to stay safe. The recent outbreaks, and lockdowns throughout Australia shows how tenuous public health is, people still need to be vigilant and for your own safety speak to your medical professionals about getting vaccinated.

The clubs' financials are indicating a significant profit, which is without precedent. This profit has been underpinned by the Governments' COVID relief package and improved performance in the clubs gaming operations – this seems typical in most small club throughout NSW. The Board will continue to monitor our financial performance closely because it is impossible to predict trends for our profit drivers, certainly the Government relief package has ceased.

The club continues to enjoy strong membership levels, about 1875 social members which reflects a small growth from previous years. Club membership renewals are now due, and we would strongly encourage you all to re-join and maintain our strong membership base. We are pleased that we will be able to maintain membership fees at 20/21 levels.

Our operating environment has enabled the club to do several things. With prudent management and a very well thought out financial restructuring package the club has been able to substantially reduce its level of debt. This time last year our bank debt stood at \$580,000, it now stands at about \$35,000. Our aged payables are right up to date, and we regularly make provision to pay our statutory obligations from our Business Activity Statements and other Government payments.

THCC has also taken the opportunity to undertake some long overdue repairs and maintenance have been a priority. We have completed painting of the club house, providing new furniture for the downstairs outdoor area, and building our outdoor entertainment area. The total costs for these projects total about \$120,000 which have been funded from within our trading expenditure without the need to increase our overall level of bank debt.

Most recently, we have had to make the decision to replace the club bus. Unfortunately, the old Toyota reached the end of its useful life and was costing members more to repair regularly than to provide a new bus. We have purchased a new Ford Transit bus from a local provider after considering several options – the decision did not simply come down to the purchase price (\$70,000). The Board also considered servicing costs, local content, cost of any spare parts and if we could develop sponsorship arrangements with the provider, and we think we have achieved a fairly good deal for the club. We will sell the old bus and return the funds to our coffers.

The real showstopper for the Board was a benefactor approached us and donated \$20,000 if we bought a new bus, no strings attached. This community is blessed by having people amongst us who are prepared to show support and show faith in Tuross Head. On behalf of all members, we have thanked our benefactor.

The club has been strongly supported by our members who continue to pursue Government funding grants to improve the high-quality sporting facilities we have at our club. The recent work we have been able to undertake has immeasurably improved the access to the golf course through the installation of new pathing and provided new shade cloth on the bowling greens. These things do not happen by accident, they are the result of many hours of hard work by volunteers and sub-clubs who continue their commitment to this club.

Our golf course is listed amongst the top 25 9-hole golf courses in Australia. The course has continued to move to a higher level through the recent engagement of a PGA professional – Rob Green. Some people may say “so what” but improving our profile amongst the golfing and bowling community can only have positive outcomes for the Tuross Head community.

The Board in the last month have made changes to our catering arrangements. It was clear in the conversations we were having with our members that there were substantial concerns regarding club catering. The Board spent countless hours working through this matter and have now engaged “Jack” to undertake our catering. Jack has had many years working in the industry and until about 12 months ago worked with our previous club contractor. He has now established his own business and recently moved his family to the area permanently and we are strongly encouraged that this “local” content will raise the bar again. Please come along and support his business.

The circulation of information to members through club circulars and improvements to the club website continue to be a priority. If there are things people would like to know please ask and to the best of our ability we will get back to you. There is nothing more frustrating than hearing some of the “rubbish” and rumours circulated about what the club is or is not doing which are patently untrue. Some of the talk is subversive, some of it simply generated through people who are misinformed.

Plans are afoot for the AGM in October and notices will be circulating shortly so keep your eye out and put the date in your diary. The major points of business this year will be the presentation of the Annual audited financial report, dealing with any business members wish to raise and the election of a new Board for the next 2 years. We would strongly encourage

members to consider standing, as the Board is only as strong as its expertise and diversity. Have a chat with GM Stephen Hodge or President Rodger Chappell if you would like details.

Finally, on behalf of all members, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Stephen and his management team, the bar staff, catering staff, maintenance staff and Tim and his green staff for the outstanding effort they have put in this year – it has not been easy. The Board often joked with Stephen “he is living the dream” and often his acknowledgment was through gritted teeth, but at the end of the day we have had an exceptional year and a future to look forward to.

See you at the club and stay safe.

THCC Board

June 2021

