

COOLUM TOUCH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 MARCH 2022
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When I reflect on the events of the past 12 months for our club, I am extremely proud of the efforts by our junior & senior management committees to meet & overcome the adversity of another challenging year we have had to face. My last President's report in 2021 suggested the previous 12 months had been the most turbulent in our 40-year history. The last 12 months though has been more of the same & a prolonged test of our resilience to continue the legacy of this great club.

One of the lessons we have learnt from the past couple of years is the threat of COVID & disruptions to our competitions is not going to disappear anytime soon & we need to be adaptable to ensure our future & keep our members coming back to the club. We have done a wonderful job at adapting to the COVID disruptions so far & I think our members would be pleased with the way in which we have been able to continue our competitions through these uncertain times.

COVID was back in Season 1 not only causing the cancellation of competitions for several weeks but also the postponement of our 40th year birthday celebrations from March to October. Our 40th year birthday celebrations in October were a remarkable success & a highlight of our year. The success of this event was only achieved through the tremendous work of the organising committee & a massive thanks to Chris Sharrock, Julia Nicholas, Susie Walsh & the junior & senior volunteers who all contributed to ensuring everyone who attended enjoyed a fun day. I must also acknowledge & thank the Sunshine Coast Regional Council for their financial support which also greatly contributed to making our special occasion such a wonderful spectacle.

The threat of COVID has also continued so far this year in 2022 & has particularly impacted our junior competition. A number of schools withdrew teams at the start of this season due to the COVID threat & sanctioning our junior competition as an 'out of school' event. Many of the school students have still joined our junior competition as individual players but the withdrawal of 'teams' from these schools has diminished the total number of junior teams who participated in the previous season.

Our competitions in 2021 and this year in 2022 have also suffered quite a significant number of cancellations due to rain & severe weather events. The weather cancellations along with the COVID disruptions have also placed increased pressure on us as a club to adjust our fees. It has been difficult to find a solution to this issue because although the cancellation of games has occurred our operating costs continue to rise whilst still required to pay regional & state affiliation fees. We will continue to monitor any future cancellation of games due to COVID and/or wet weather & work through any workable solutions as required.

Our club continues to achieve in the representative touch football arena. Our juniors competed in the 2021 East Coast Championships held in Noosa during June and the 2021 Junior State Cup held in Hervey Bay during July. These were the first major representative carnivals for these players & they all had a fantastic time. Every player will be better for the experience & look forward to our Under 16 girls side competing again at this year's Junior State Cup in July at Hervey Bay. So much goes into organising for these teams to compete at these representative carnivals and a big thanks must go to our junior coordinator Susie Walsh, our junior representative coordinator, Julia Nicholas, our referee coordinator Tex Byrnes, all of the referees, our junior coaching directors Danny Goodwin & Shane Rigby and all of the coaches and managers.

COOLUM TOUCH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 MARCH 2022
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After months of training our senior representative sides were very disappointed with the cancellation of the Senior State Cup to be held in November at Coomera due to wet weather. Some of these teams went on to achieve success at the Bundaberg and Casurina Cup competitions. We also had players compete in the State of Origin Series for Queensland against New South Wales held at Coffs Harbour in June. Congratulations again to Rachel Walsh, Kelly Goodwin, Cassie Vincitorio, Kirsten Wolno, Shane Rigby & Mike Thoars for their selections & representing Coolum Touch at this elite level.

Further congratulations to Kelly Goodwin, Cassie Vincitorio and Kirsten Wolno on their series wins over New South Wales. Our only representative disappointment for the year was our failed bid to the Brisbane Metropolitan Touch Association to enter teams into the 2021 Metro Cup. I still see this as a potential pathway to improve the level of representative touch football players not only at Coolum but also on the Sunshine Coast, Noosa, Gympie & Wide Bay touch catchment areas. We will continue to work towards improving our application and making a successful bid to enter this competition.

This year there are members of our committee who have decided to move on from their roles. These include our junior coordinator Susie Walsh, our treasurer Greg Swan, our Vice President Chris Jordan and our secretary Cassie Vincitorio. I wish to personally thank all of them for their tireless efforts for the club as committee members. The last few years have been particularly difficult and overwhelming at times with the increased workload caused by COVID and the government restrictions. Our club would not have survived if it wasn't for the dedication and commitment of these people as well as the rest of the committee.

It has been an absolute privilege and I am forever grateful to have had the opportunity to work with all of you. I know that you will continue to be a part of the club and we will be able to call upon you for advice if we ever need to. I wish you nothing but the best for your next ventures outside of being a Coolum Touch committee member.

Once again, I thank all the committee members, coaching staff and referees for their support to me as President for the past 12 months. I am excited & looking forward to working with the new committee should I be elected as President again for the upcoming year. It will be great to have fresh input and overseeing new ideas from our new committee to ensure the legacy of this great club continues.



Peter Feldman (Feldo)
President
Coolum Touch Association