

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It seems like every year I start with the same line but yes, another season has come and gone and didn't this season throw up some major challenges to the committee and coaching staff alike.

This season saw an influx of new people joining the committee, a tidy profit from the previous year and aggressive recruiting. A new coach was appointed and all seemed on track for what I think everyone thought was a serious crack at winning our way into A grade.

For reasons that do not need to be rehashed, new players were asked to leave, aspects of the committee lost its way, and once again too much was left to too few.

I take some responsibility for this as a new career path meant I was more of a ghost after Christmas and I was not able to keep as much of an eye on things as I would have liked...well so much for the negatives, there were some great highlights this season and I would rather focus upon those:

The formation of our first senior women's side. For those that came down to watch, the girls whilst not troubling too many opposition sides were, as a group a wonderful ambassador for our club and were accordingly awarded the "spirit of cricket" award by the VWCA. This is an extremely prestigious award as it is actually voted on by the opposition teams that played us in the season just gone.

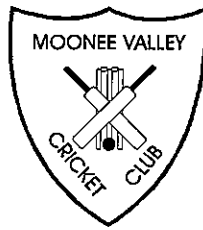
We ran several very successful functions. Our Xmas Raffle was the most successful yet raising over \$4500 for the club. Hopefully this night will get bigger and bigger for us in the future. Our Past Players function saw a multitude of past greats and not so greats congregate back at the club. Unfortunately I was not able to attend due to work commitments but a fantastic night was had by all.

The new practice nets began to take shape. They will be up and running for pre season training and will provide excellent facilities to help with training and practice.

The canteen had a record profit this season. As our sponsorship was down, and functions were not being attended by the playing group, this gave us a bit of financial breathing space to work with.

Our juniors had another great season. We had more sides represented in finals than any other club and were fortunate enough to bring home 3 flags for our club. Congratulations to all involved with that remarkable achievement..

Overall, we were reasonably successful off the field, and I think its time it starts to flow into on field success very quickly indeed.



There are a number of people I need to thank;

Firstly to my wing man Jim Polonidis, who was an invaluable support not only when I was there but also most importantly when I could not be there.. Thanks Pola, you were a godsend.

The great man Charlie Walker... he did a mountain of work with the juniors, clothing, canteen, nets fund and whatever else needed to be done.. Thanks a lot mate

Kevin Gardiner also continued on from his Lyndsay Jones winning form of the previous season and amongst many things was the sole reason the Past Players' function took shape. Great work mate, thank you heaps..

Richard Cooney came on board as secretary and did a fantastic job. Nothing was too much trouble and everything was done in the effective and efficient Richard Cooney fashion that we have all come to expect. Thanks Rich and I hope, but more importantly the club hopes you go around again next season.

Looking after the finances is no small task and a good job was done by Peter Fenaughty and Paul Comino. They also did a myriad of work around the club, Pete running around and buying fruit and vegies for afternoon teas and Paul doing... well just about everything else!!! A worthy "Lyndsay Jones" best clubman winner in everyone's eyes.

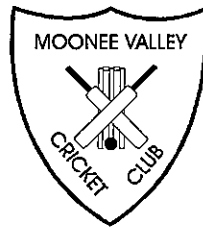
Dan Phillips battled the odds with trying to get people to functions and he tried everything possible to drum up support. It must also be noted that Dan works shift work AND lives in Kilmore, so to give what he did was a great effort, thanks champ.

I also need to acknowledge the contributions of the non committee people that did their bit throughout the season. Dan Terzini did a wonderful job again with the Xmas party tickets, Liz Coote was fantastic in giving her time to run the canteen on Friday nights, thanks Liz.. Phil King and Tony Gleeson did a great job training and managing the women's team, thanks guys. Then there are the "usual suspects", clubmen like Joe Ansaldo, Darren "Spud" Nagle, Mark Gauci, Heath "Frodo" Webb-Johnson, that did anything that was asked. Thanks guys.

Also need to thank Lou and Mark for their efforts being the Coach and Captain of the club respectively. It was a trying time for you both for reasons that we are all aware of, but they both did their jobs with conviction and passion and for that I, and the club thank them.

Next Season

Due to work commitments, I will have to relinquish the Presidency. Unfortunately, it is a case of "have to" as opposed to "want to" but we are working behind the scenes to make this as smooth a transition as possible.



Coaching appointments are already being finalised and I'm sure by the time of the AGM, announcements will be made. I will still play a part at the club, focusing on recruitment which Im sure everyone agrees has its own set of issues and problems that will pop up....

Once again thanks to all that have helped out in my time as president...

Finally, a huge thank you to my partner Kimmie for her constant support and understanding over the time we have been together. Her support has definitely made my "juggling" of commitments much easier to handle, thanks babe.

GO VALLEYS....

Sandro Capocchi