



Chairman's report

September 2009

It is with pleasure that I present my first report on behalf of the newly formed Waikato Hockey Association Board of Governance.

On behalf of the board I would thank everybody for their support through the current changes that have thus far made possible a new governance structure, any changes can create uncertainty, but I have seen many examples that the greater Waikato hockey community is thoroughly supportive of these new concepts.

You are likely all familiar that during the last 12 months Waikato Hockey have embarked upon the development of a strategy map. From this document the overall objective was to establish a Waikato Hockey Board of Governance as a primary ongoing vehicle to provide oversight on behalf of all Waikato Hockey, responsible for the strategy moving forward.

The Board has responsibilities for partnerships, people, facilities and finances, and in so saying your board has been meeting every two weeks and sometimes weekly to fully evaluate the current finances, review the current programs for the facilities, review the interactions with people and divisions, and begin to map the partnerships for ongoing sponsorship and funding requirements. As you would be aware there are many facets to the strategic map and in time each of these issues will be addressed and implemented.

The board has spent some time reviewing strategy, having requested your bucket lists, these are being reviewed currently to ensure that your needs can be formalised into next year's operational plans.

One of the highest priorities in the Strategic Map was given to growing senior player numbers, enhancing coaching quality and quantity, turf utilisation year round and a festive atmosphere. This was to be built on what is deemed as a good platform based around the current leadership providing innovation and collaboration with all groups.

In conjunction with the Waikato Hockey Charitable Trust and partially as a result of the recession the market place, it was agreed to move forward with an upgrade to the current Pavilion, in preference to the complete extension to the current Pavilion, as funding had not been secured for the complete extension.

It has been agreed to maintain the current structure and organisational systems until January next year whilst the board evaluates more fully options regarding structure in the future. During which time we are reviewing the financial position and financial performance of both Waikato Hockey and the Waikato Hockey Charitable Trust, developing budgets to clearly see our position for the 2010 year, providing us with an opportunity to clearly show



that our plans for the future can be met within the future financial model.

We have also agreed to the concept of employing an executive officer/general manager for Waikato hockey Association, documents, contracts and advertisements are being developed. We see this as a positive step forward to enhance the current operations and provide additional support in areas that Waikato Hockey potentially needs to improve. An executive subcommittee consisting of myself, Gregg Brown, Mathew Cooper and Greg Timms will be reviewing applicants over the next few months and making recommendations to the board.

Redevelopment of the hockey website has been completed earlier this year and provides a great platform for continued growth, database management and development is a priority here, as was established in the strategic map.

Policies and procedures have been identified as an area for improvement and during the off-season these will be developed more fully, providing adequate documentation policies and procedures for coaches, players, divisions and the like for the future.

Your board is very comfortable with the current operational management whilst we develop our understanding and review the future; we are 100% supportive of Denise and her operations team, as we are also comfortable with the divisional chairs and their operational teams.

It is exciting to be embarking upon this journey to build on the successful Waikato hockey programme thus far with over 3000 registered players in the region, exciting to be able to celebrate Waikato Hockey with leadership positions in all areas of our Hockey community.

I would also challenge you to review the strategic map, available on the website, and to provide us with tangible programs in each area to progress the development of Waikato Hockey.

Owen Embling.
Chairman Waikato hockey.