

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is my privilege once again to deliver the Annual Report for Waikato Hockey Association (Inc) for the financial year ending **30 November 2018**.

The challenge for us and the Waikato hockey community is not to be complacent and stuck in our old ways. Hockey New Zealand has finally released its long-awaited Strategy Delivery Review paper in November last year. The impact of its recommendations is significant, and it requires all of us who hold the levers of hockey in this region to assess and respond to how we deliver hockey as a sport and recreation in our region.

While we may have made lots of progress in Waikato, we must continue look beyond what we have achieved so far. We need to work towards setting new and higher goals for our Association and our hockey community. The journey towards becoming one of New Zealand's leading hockey associations is not without its challenges. We must learn to innovate and do things better and smarter.

On the finance side, I am pleased to report that with discipline and on-going vigilance by the Management team and the Board, the Association has returned to profit and we are pleased to report a profit of \$25,830.00 for this financial year. This is a significant improvement after last year's loss.

The Board recognises that it is important for our Association to maintain a surplus in this coming financial year and more importantly, continue to do so sustainably in the years to follow. To this end, the Board has approved a budget to provide a reasonable surplus in the 2019 financial year and continues to take steps to ensure that the financial fitness of the Association be given the highest priority.

On the other hockey fronts, the 2018 year has provided another significant season for WHA and our hockey community. We enjoyed successes both on and off the turf and continue to make significant progress in the development of hockey in the Waikato region. We have continued to work collaboratively with our Midlands region's colleagues and with Midlands Hockey in respect of the high performance hockey.

The Board would like to thank our Chief Executive Officer, Declan Wyndham-Smith for his work, energy and leadership and the many hours he and his team, including Kirsten Brinkworth, Brett Sanders, Stuart Pitu and Aodan Wyndham-Smith have put in to keep the organisation running as smoothly as it possibly can. Declan's attached CEO Report provides an excellent summary of Waikato Hockey's accomplishments and challenges facing us.

The Board recognises that there are many people who have made significant and important contributions to Waikato Hockey in 2018 which have helped the Association to continue to grow and prosper. These groups include the volunteers on Senior and Junior Divisions Committees, our representative coaches and assistant coaches and the managers and their support personnel. Your work means a lot to the Association and on behalf of the Board, I thank each of you for your time, effort and sacrifice. We need to continue to work with our volunteers and find ways to recognise their contributions to our hockey community.

I also want to thank all Club and School volunteers. A huge amount of volunteer hours go into running your Clubs and your School teams and we are mindful that without your contributions and usually carried out selflessly, Waikato Hockey cannot operate its programmes and competitions in a meaningful way.

Finally, I thank each of the Board members for their time and contributions in 2018.

Truman Wee

Chairperson and President