

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement of Country _____	2
OVERVIEW OF 2022 - 23 _____	3
Board of Directors _____	4
Life Members _____	4
President's Annual Report _____	4
President's Annual Award _____	5
2021 - 2024 Strategic Plan _____	5
Executive General Manager's Report _____	6
Staffing _____	6
Sponsors _____	7
Nest Egg _____	7
Building _____	7
Finance _____	7
Competitions _____	8
Player & Coach development _____	8
Future _____	12

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Illawarra Basketball Association ('IBA') pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders - past, present and emerging - and recognise the immense cultural and linguistic strength and diversity that has existed on this land for tens of thousands of years. Gwynneville, where the IBA is based, is a suburb west of the Wollongong city centre. Local communities of Aboriginal people were the original inhabitants and Traditional Custodians of Illawarra Land. Their dialect is a variant of the Dharawal language.

The IBA and the multicultural communities we work closely with realise that understanding the past helps us shape a better future for all. We commit to learning from the knowledge, traditions, stories, spirituality, and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We, who come from many places, acknowledge the welcome offered to us by the traditional custodians of this land, the world's oldest living culture.

# OVERVIEW OF 2022 – 23

July 2022	2022 Junior Rep Finals
August 2022	2022 NBL1 Finals
September 2022	Workshops and Holiday Programs Prep 4 Rep
October 2022	2022 Rep Coaches Appointed 2022 Rep Team Nominations 2023 Rep Trials Started
November 2022	2022-23 Summer Competition 2023 Rep Coaches Selected 2023 Rep Teams Picked and started training 2023 BNSW Team Nominations Due
December 2022	Local Comp Break for Christmas Holidays
January 2023	Rep Training Holiday Camps
February 2023	2023 Junior Competitions Restart 2023 JPL/SJL Prep/preseason Development Programs Start
March 2023	2023 Rep Season Starts BNSW Round 2 SJL @ Snakepit NBL1/Waratah Prep 2023 Winter Competitions Nominations Open
April 2023	NBL1 Begins JPL Rounds Summer Comp Ends Winter Comp Starts
May 2023	SJL Rounds & Finals JPL Rounds
June 2023	2023 Country Tournament JPL & NBL1

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Andrew Thornberry
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	Sam Ackroyd
<b>DIRECTOR/COMPANY SECRETARY:</b>	Edith MacDonald
<b>DIRECTOR/TREASURER:</b>	Mark Caldwell
<b>DIRECTOR:</b>	Daniel Muller
<b>DIRECTOR:</b>	Jasmine Cario
<b>DIRECTOR:</b>	Sandra Kolednik

## LIFE MEMBERS

Peter Andrews (*Deceased*), Harry Alla Snr (*Deceased*), Oliver Ounapu, Dr Adrian Hurley, Edna Williams (*Deceased*) Edward Weston (*Deceased*), Peter Brettell, John Trivellion Scott, Paul Devine, Barry Benjamin (*Deceased*), Ken Riseborough (*Deceased*) Pat Cherrington (*Deceased*), Roy Brettell (*Deceased*), Betty Hassen (*nee Jones*), Malcolm Harris, Warwick Stutchbury (*Deceased*), Syd Webb, Peter Bolt (*Deceased*), Ian Richardson, David North, Bill Dowson, Michael McGrath  
 2017 - Wendy Brown, Bob Kubbinga (*Deceased*), Eric Kivi, Robin Robertson  
 2018 - Cheryl Lowe, Richard Banks, Darren O'Brien, Michael Stjepanovic  
 2020 - Val Mann, Phil Driscoll, Jeanette Stutchbury, Graeme Haney  
 2022 – Alan Caldwell, Janice Caldwell

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Members,

2023 has be a great year for Basketball Illawarra. We started the year winning the Association of the Year at the Basketball NSW awards and we finished the year with our U/14 boys and girls performing extremely well to get to Nationals and the girls taking it out. A fabulous effort.

We have been trying hard this year to focus on process and transparency and I think the results are starting to be seen. Oscar is working with his team to document roles and responsibilities and make sure that people know what they are doing.

As a board I feel that we have been cohesive, and directors have all had the opportunity to have their say in a respectful environment.

One of the aims of the board is to make sure we have a focus on our community. We are very proud to have introduced the Hawks Nest this year which is a fund designed to help people in our community who are struggling to play in or represent the Illawarra due to financial pressures. We have had our first round of applications and distribution of funds, which has helped around 8 of our members so far.

We were also hoping to run a community day this year, but time beat us. This is now scheduled for 2024.

Overall I feel the board has run well and the association under the direction of Oscar is thriving. There is always room for improvement and our board and management are aligned in the belief in a continuous improvement process - try something, analyse the results, improve and keep moving.

I would like to thank all the members of the association for their support this year and look forward to an exciting 2024.

Andrew Thornberry, President Basketball Illawarra

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL AWARD

Since our entry into the NBL1 East competition, the demand for coordinating benches has significantly increased each season. Yet this challenge is tackled with unparalleled grace, ensuring seamless operations, and keeping the games flowing smoothly.

As the mastermind behind coordinating our score bench officials for NBL1 and Youth League teams, the recipient has been an invaluable asset to Basketball Illawarra.

Coupled with the consistent support of Basketball Illawarra wherever she is, it is my pleasure to announce the recipient of the 2023 President's Award as Keira Rostirolla!

Andrew Thornberry, President Basketball Illawarra

## 2021 – 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

Your IBA Board previously worked on the strategic business plan for the Association covering the period up until 2024.

Our vision, mission and purpose remain largely unchanged, and our values are aligned with our parent body, BNSW. Below is a reminder of our strategic plan.

### **Our Vision**

Make basketball the sport of choice in the Illawarra, supporting community goals in providing health and lifestyle opportunities.

### **Our Mission**

To provide members and the community a facility and resources to participate and grow the game of basketball, making it a sport for everyone.

### **Our Purpose**

To promote, grow and facilitate the sport of basketball in the Illawarra.

### Our Values

Integrity	Transparency
Teamwork	Inclusion
Sustainability	Continuous Improvement

There are five strategic pillars that we will focus on, and we have articulated the key outcomes we will strive for against each pillar, to position the Association as one of the leading NSW regional basketball associations.

The strategic pillars are:

1. **Community:** by building a safe and friendly environment, we will better engage our membership, increase our supporters, and improve our profile in the community
2. **Competition and Participation:** through delivery of our programs, we will increase player participation of all ages, and increase our female participation.
3. **Development:** we will ensure player, referee and coaching development opportunities are in place.
4. **Facilities, Operations & People:** we will improve our facilities, deliver effective governance, streamline our operations and reward passionate, skilled staff.
5. **Financial:** we must generate sufficient profit through increased revenue streams to sustainably support stadium upgrades and investment in our basketball programs.

There is a significant amount of work required to deliver the business plan actions and achieve the desired outcomes for the Association. We will be looking to the membership for involvement in sub-committees and sponsorship support.

## EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

### Staffing

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the entire staff for their continuous support in maintaining the operation of the Association.

It's crucial to acknowledge that the success of the Association and the execution of local competition games are not solely attributed to the office staff but are the result of a collective effort. I am grateful for the dedication and contributions of our volunteers, casuals, staff, officials, players of all skill levels, and everyone who actively participates in our local competitions. Each one of you plays a vital role in ensuring the success of our events and the provision of quality service to our community. Your ongoing support is truly appreciated.

I am pleased to highlight the ongoing improvements within our Association, with a dedicated focus on sustaining these positive changes. As part of our commitment to accessibility, we are actively working on providing low-cost programs to our members, aiming to eliminate barriers to participation and learning basketball.

One persistent challenge has been the need for additional courts for competitions, and we are actively exploring various avenues to address this issue. Furthermore, we successfully navigated the challenge of a waiting list exceeding 160 players eager to join the junior local competitions. By

adjusting game durations from 10 to 9-minute quarters, we managed to accommodate an additional 151 young players, effectively reducing the waiting list.

Our dedication extends beyond immediate solutions; we continue to review our programs and address service gaps to ensure we provide the best possible experience for our members. As we move forward, our objective is to create an environment that fosters both enjoyment and athlete development while maintaining our commitment to the community we serve.

## **Sponsors**

We have seen a continuance in sponsorship this year with stadium and program sponsors along with NBL1 sponsorship. 2023/24 is lining up to have increased sponsorship again as corporates look towards basketball as an affordable entry to organised sport. To any current sponsors reading the Annual Report – thank you for your contribution, your support allows us to run programs at a lower cost, devise different programs or events that we feel are worthwhile, and help create a community feel within the stadium.

## **Nest Egg**

We introduced a charitable arm to the association and through donations and sponsorship were able to fund 6 applications for financial hardship. This is an area that will have a focus for 2023/24 as we continue to strive to reduce barriers to participation for families. There will be another announcement seeking support from businesses and individuals before opening the next round of applications.

## **Building**

Thanks to NSW Government Grants, stadium upgrade works were able to continue in 2022/23. The installation of the large industrial fans helped cool the stadium during the warmer times. Safety padding to the whole stadium has helped provide a safer environment for games to be played as well as clean up the lower walls of the stadium.

Further upgrade works planned for 2023-24:

Refurbishment of the amenities to update the style and quality. A new look configuration will be brought to the back court amenities.

## **Finance**

Please refer to the signed financial statements provided on the IBA website.



## Competitions

2022/23 financial year has seen a significant increase in teams returning to competition basketball as they seasons resumed in full compared to that of previous years with interruptions due to lockdowns.

Entering the Winter season of competition basketball, the IBA staff focused on a push in female participation and the consistency of games played in all female competitions. 2022 Summer competitions had more forfeits in the under 16/19 girls than the rest of junior competitions combined. This brought about the change to these comps 'Championship Girls' and 'Social Girls', this has been a welcomed and positive change for the girl's competitions and seen not only growth but limited forfeits and more games.

**Below are the team numbers by season during the 2022/23 financial year.**

### JUNIOR LOCAL COMPETITION

	Girls Teams	Boys Teams	Total Teams
2022	24	121	145
2022/23	29	158	187
2023	34	147	181

### SENIORS LOCAL COMPETITION

	Women's Teams	Men's Teams	Unisex Teams	Total Teams
2022	14	55	13	82
2022/23	16	55	12	83
2023	20	56	14	90

## Player & Coach development

Basketball Illawarra is committed to helping players and coaches grow through our pathway by offering various programs for everyone. In the representative program we focus on long-term player development, providing pathways for those eager to excel. We've introduced programs like Walking Basketball for the elderly, keeping them active, healthy and looking to battle social issues such as loneliness. For the little ones, Mini Hawks teaches 3 to 5-year-olds the basics of physical literacy and playing whilst also encouraging turn taking. Local players can join the Hawks Development Program to enhance their skills, while the Hawks Performance Program offers a high-performance setting for dedicated athletes. All these programs prioritise quality coaching whilst trying to remove price as a barrier as much as possible.



## 2022/23 Development Programs Key Stats

### Term 3 2022

Aussie Hoops – 142

Hawks Development Program – 134

### Term 4 2022

Aussie Hoops – 161

Aussie Hoops – Gametime- 20

Hawks Development Program - 165

### Term 1 2023

Aussie Hoops – 231

Aussie Hoops Gametime - 59

Mini Hawks – 17

Hawks Development Program – 177

Walking Basketball - 8

### Term 2 2023

Aussie Hoops – 168

Aussie Hoops Gametime - 43

Mini Hawks – 21

Hawks Development Program - 125

Hawks Performance Program - 101

Walking Basketball - 12

## Development Coaching Staff

Ella Dent

Mek Geist

Adella Hopkins

Miller Bonham

Emerson McCrea

Laura Fitzwilliam

Emily Paulic

Sienna Curtis

Alannah Curtis

Charlotte Giles

Imogen Thompson

Mia Yardley

Emerson McCrea

Hannah Campbell

Cooper Delaney

Jonah Flinn

Isaac Turton

Jasper Buchanan

Robbie Lavallo

Jackson Paulic  
 Jalen Blanchard  
 Max Driscoll

### BNSW REPRESENTATIVES

Under 14's	Under 16's	Under 18's
<p><b>Girls</b>            Addison Bonham            Taylah Curtis            Sarah-Ann Campbell            Olivia Pupovac            Zara Suka            Grace Lane            Delphi Harper-Socratous            Lily Wildner            Kalani Chambers            Sophie Barlow            Emily Clark            Emily Kingston            Joely Suttor            Memphis Coble</p> <p><b>Boys</b>            Riley Saville            Bentin Harding            Xavier Harris            Carter Thelan            Joshua Musgrave            Lucas Campbell            Edem Dowling            Lachlan Butler            Darcy Stepanovski</p>	<p><b>Girls</b>            Sienna Curtis            Miller Bonham            Chelsea Groves            Lillian Ragan            Alina Pasakarnis            Maya Hopkins            Molly Coble            Laura Fitzwilliam            Alek De Bol</p> <p><b>Boys</b>            Isaac Turton            Aki Langford            Cooper Delaney            Thomas Hofman            Chayce Te Nana            Rory Milross-Rose            Luca De Bol            Ezra Baldwin</p>	<p><b>Girls</b>            Charlotte Giles            Emerson McCrea</p> <p><b>Boys</b>            Bradley Ballinger            Kade Bradley            Milo Fallows            Luka Cuda            Joshua Spark</p>

## STATE TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

NSW School State Teams	NSW U16 State Team	NSW U18 State Teams	NSW U20 State Teams
<b>PSSA Girls</b> Indy Bradley			
<b>CHS U16 Boys</b> Jonah Flinn Joshua Spark			
<b>CCC U16 Girls</b> Emerson McCrea	<b>Girls</b> Alek De Bol Alina Pasakarnis Molly Coble Sienna Curtis (R)	<b>Girls</b> Charlotte Giles Emerson McCrea (R)	
<b>CCC U16 Boys</b>			
<b>CIS U16 Boys</b> Luka Cuda	<b>Boys</b> Aki Langford Isaac Turton	<b>Boys</b> Bradley Ballinger	<b>Boys</b> Joshua Dent Noah Pagotto
<b>CHS Open Boys</b> Tobias Delaney	<b>Coaching Staff</b> Maddison Delaney (AC) Tom Farrar (HC) Eric Hackett (DC)	<b>Reserves:</b>  <b>Coaching Staff:</b> Cindy Bonham (AC) Tom Cranney (AC)	
<b>U16 All Schools Team</b> Emerson McCrea Luka Cuda			
<b>Open All Schools Team</b> Tobias Delaney			

## ILLAWARRA REPRESENTATIVE 2022 ANNUAL AWARDS

Junior Female Athlete of the Year: Charlotte Giles

Junior Male Athlete of the Year: Bradley Ballinger

Junior Team of the Year: U14 Girls JPL

Junior Coach of the Year: Cindy Bonham

Association Coach of the Year: Kalos Harris

Junior Referee of the Year: Makayla Hawker

### **Match Officials**

The number of active officials fluctuated between 76 and 98 during the reporting period. The Green Shirt program received great attention and provided a space for new referees to learn with guidance and then filter into refereeing spots to not only gain valuable experience but also to bolster our local comp talent pool. The focus for the future is to support and upskill our current referees as well as providing guidance and enticing new potential referees to join the pathway.

### **The IBA covered:**

BNSW JPL & SJL

BNSW Waratah Seniors (Youth League Men and Women, NBL1 Men and Women, Wheelchair)

BNSW John Martin Country Tournament

Barrengarry juniors & seniors

Rep scrimmages and trials

### **Statistics at the end of June 2022 were:**

84 active officials

62% male; 38% female

## **Future**

The future of the Association continues to excite me. I believe we have good people involved that do it for the right reasons – the betterment of basketball players in the Illawarra. This Association has a lot of potential and I completely understand that it will take a lot of hard work to improve all areas of the business, but I strongly believe that building the IBA back up the correct way with a focus on our Strategic Plan will see improvements. I am looking forward to next year's report to see the improvements made throughout the year as well as implementing the changes needed during the next 12 months.

Oscar Forman

Executive General Manager