



# Annual Report 2021

1 Northcote Road  
Eden Hills, 5050  
Ph: 8278 8833  
Email: [contactus@blackwoodrec.com.au](mailto:contactus@blackwoodrec.com.au)

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## Board Members

Garry Dolman	President	Ian Bracken	Committee Member
Neil White	Vice President & Lions Club of Blackwood	Carly Soutter	Committee Member
Maricel Becirovic	Treasurer	Ron Boath	Committee Member
Alison Snel	Secretary/Public Officer	Chris Martin	Committee Member
Rhys Roberts	Committee Member & Rotary Club of Blackwood	Zane Basic	Committee Member
		Wayne Gallasch	Co-opted Member non-voting City of Mitcham
		Vacant	

## Management Team

Margaret Cuthbertson	Centre Manager
Steve Woods	Assistant Manager & Fitness Studio Coordinator
Pat Porter	Senior Customer Service & Administration Officer
Phoebe Cuthbertson	Sports Coordinator
Brenton Dicker	Gymsports Coordinator





## Message from the President



As I sit here and write this report, I am reflecting on a tumultuous 119th year for the Blackwood Community Recreation Association Inc. (BCRAI) starting on 1st January 2021. I started the year as Honorary Treasurer and I was confirmed as treasurer for the forthcoming year at the AGM in April 2021. I also agreed to be Vice President as that is a position that does little other than maybe chair a meeting in the absence of the President. Brad Williams was the ongoing President. In June, Brad started a new job that involved a lot of interstate travel and he resigned as President. As Vice President I stepped up to be President and Maricel Becirovic became the Association's Honorary Treasurer and Diana Atkinson (Finance Officer) agreed to come to any Board meeting to assist our understanding of the Association's financial position.

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to throw a number of significant challenges for the Association and our staff. I am pleased that we rose to the challenges and remain a strong and viable organisation that continues to offer a diverse range of services to the community. Margaret and her leadership team, kept meeting every challenge that Covid 19 and the ever-changing regulations threw at them, including almost weekly changes to the density restrictions. The Board greatly appreciates the efforts of Margaret and all her staff.

The renewal of the Underlease, which expired in February 2019, has again been a focus of the Board. The Board decided at the July meeting to become more proactive in endeavouring to resolve this issue. At this time, the Mitcham Council proposed to back away from all lease arrangements and wanted the Association to deal directly with the Department for Education. This arrangement may have resulted in the Association becoming responsible for the structural maintenance of the 18 year old Community Centre. We are a small, not for profit association. Whilst we are financially viable, we do not have the funds available to maintain a \$15million centre and this suggestion was totally unacceptable to the Board. The Board mounted an extensive campaign to advise the Elected Members of the City of Mitcham that the proposed "new" lease arrangements were not in the best interest of the community. With the help of the community through a letter and email campaign, the Elected Members agreed in November to abandon this idea and asked the Council Administration to enter into negotiations with the Department for Education for a Head Lease and a subsequent Underlease with the BCRAI. This was a positive step forward for the Association and the Community. Negotiations with the Department to date have resulted in an agreement for the Department for Education and the City of Mitcham to share the cost of any structural maintenance on a 50/50 basis. The Association Board understands that there has also been agreement to a 15-year lease, hopefully 3 x 15 years with automatic right of renewal. These discussions are ongoing and will now be with the new Labor Government. It is the Board's hope that the lease will be finalised before the City of Mitcham has to go into "caretaker mode" in September ahead of the forthcoming November Local Council elections.

There were significant capital improvements in the centre during the past 12 months with the matting in the Gymsports now totally replaced and a new sprung floor being installed. The main stadium area will have a refurbished floor as a result of a successful grant application through the office of Recreation Sport & Racing late in 2021 for half the cost of the work.

During 2021 the Board started to look at a new Strategic Plan with a 5 to 10-year focus. This is likely to include an extension of the Fitness Studio as Stage 1 and stage 2 may include additional spaces/rooms for our expanding Community Programmes, further improvements to the Gymsports programme and an upgrade to the main stadium area. We will keep the community informed as the Board develops these ideas. Obviously, these improvements will require State and Federal Government funding.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board for their continued support, their willingness to embrace new ideas and for their contribution to the current and future direction of the best Community Centre in the City of Mitcham. I would also like to thank Margaret and the staff for their continued dedication and desire to bring the best possible programmes to our community through what has been a very difficult 2 years.

The Board and staff will strive to meet the needs of our community in the coming years and to bring new and interesting programmes for the enjoyment and benefit of the diverse community we are privileged to serve.

Garry Dolman  
President

# Treasurer's Report

## Post COVID 19 Lockdowns

Trading audited surplus this year was \$148,602 compared to a surplus \$129,248 in 2020.

With an amazing amount of support from our long standing and new members we were able to run most programmes with minimal fuss; a lot of rules and regulations but again the members respected them and participated where they could.

The Board and management team were successful in obtaining multiple grants this year. A Stronger Communities Grant was used in the Gymsports Hall, Grants for Seniors provided funds for a Pilot fitness program called "No Falls", a Volunteers Grant was used to support Centre volunteers and an Active Club grant provided some new fitness equipment.

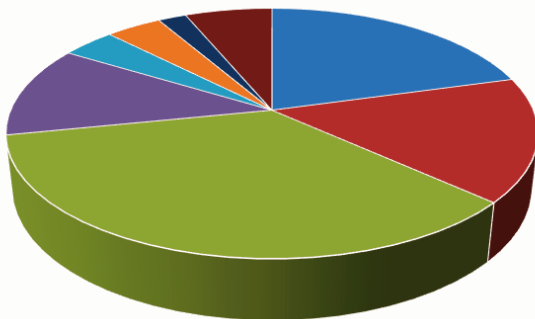
We continued to spend monies on maintaining, upgrading and increasing our equipment this year. Building maintenance increased again this year by 40.8%. We continue to be in discussions with the Council and Department for Education on the responsibilities of ongoing maintenance moving forward.

This year we invested in excess of \$100,000 in assets for our members. A new CCTV system has been installed throughout the entire centre, improving the safety for our members and staff. Fitness equipment and new lockers were purchased for the fitness centre. Replacement winches were installed for team sports and a new volleyball umpire stand was manufactured for the centre. The Gymsports Hall received a new larger sprung floor along with some new carpet strips and new apparatus to support the gymnastics competition athletes, and the trampoline athletes received a new trampoline. The foyer received a little face lift with new chairs and cupboards while Administration purchased an additional PC for the front desk.

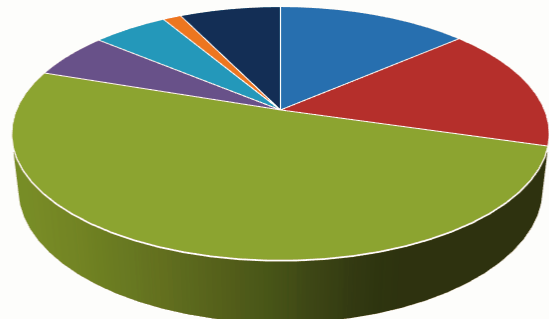
Our audited accounts indicate the centre is in a positive cash flow status and we can pay all liabilities as they fall due.

Special thanks to all the staff, clubs and volunteers that have contributed to yet another challenging year.

DIRECT INCOME



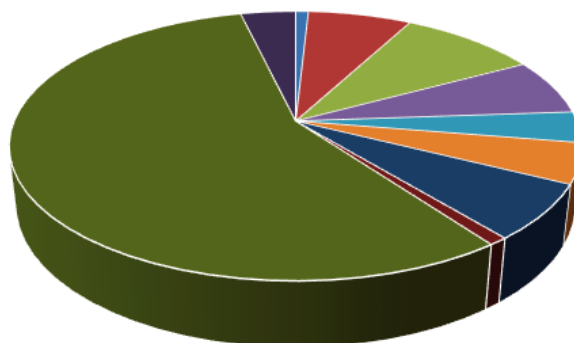
DIRECT EXPENSES



- Team Sports
- Fitness Activities
- Gym Sports
- General Activities
- External Groups
- Admin
- Grants/Donations
- Retail

- Team Sports
- Fitness Activities
- Gym Sports
- General Activities
- Admin
- Grants/Donations
- Retail

OVERHEADS



- Marketing
- Admin Expenses
- Cleaning
- Depreciation
- Insurance
- Utilities
- Maintenance
- Office Supplies
- Salaries & Provisions
- Rent



# Gymsports

Blackwood Gymsports had an excellent year in 2021 finishing with over 630 athletes registered for the year. Along with the growth within the programme, the Gymsports Hall received many upgrades and updates to bring it in line with the current world standards.

Our programmes saw a fantastic return after the difficult Covid19 periods and significant growth within our Gymnastics for All (GfA) programme called for the addition of 3 new classes and the re-instatement of the Tumbling programme.

The focus for 2021 was on education and updating, and numerous opportunities for current coaches and new and existing judges to upskill or gain an accreditation were provided. These updates have facilitated a major upskilling in our competitive programmes, to assist coaches and judges to improve the standard of classes we provide for our athletes.

Our Gymsports Hall had on average 85-90% usage after 4pm each weekday, which has highlighted the need to look into further expansion as our classes are reaching capacity. External facilities at Gymnastics SA and Koorana Gymnastics Club, were utilised twice a week to ease congestion and give our higher-level athletes access to a foam pit and other training aids not available in our own venue.

Competition results were solid across all Gymsports disciplines and a number of athletes also represented the club at State and National level. Blackwood is also very proud to acknowledge a number of coaches who attended the National Championships as state coaches and judges.

The foundation programme for all Gymsports, in fact all sports, is Kindergym; and we offer classes from 6 months to 5 years of age. Each session works on developing participants gross and fine motor skills through structured and supervised play. Each term a theme is chosen and this year participants developed their skills through "Playing to learn", "Move it Move it", on "The Farm" and aboard the "Story Train". Lots of fun and learning was enjoyed by the children and parents/caregivers alike.

2021's growth for the Gymsports program highlights the efforts and commitment that our coaches, judges, volunteers and coordinators have towards our centre. Everyone involved with our programmes in 2021 should be congratulated on their extraordinary efforts throughout the difficult Covid-19 periods.



Tramp coach Mikaela and athlete Kiara at Australian Championships



Kindergym Setup in 2021



New Trampoline purchased in 2021



Coach Tyson and MAG Boys (Kieran, Tom & Trystan) at Australian Championships



Tumbling athletes Bethany & Omaria at Australian Championships



New Springboards purchased in 2021

# Fitness Studio

## **The New Normal**

With many changing restrictions and procedures due to the COVID 19 pandemic, our members did a great job "going with the flow" in the Fitness Studio in 2021. Some of the new restrictions that have been implemented include:

- Member number requirements and booking for peak times
- Wiping down equipment after use
- Moving equipment around to allow for social distancing to be maintained
- Changing of rooms for classes to accommodate numbers
- Smaller class sizes to allow for density requirements

All our staff and members have done amazingly well getting adjusted to all the different changes and are making them the new norm for their gym visits. We continue to monitor how things will change/process going forward but a huge thankyou to everyone for going the extra mile and keeping each other safe.



## **Introduction of a "No Falls" Programme**

Through a great idea of some board members, we decided to implement a "No Falls" Programme to our list of regular fitness programmes at the Recreation Centre. The first launch saw over 35 participants get into the programme with many seeing some great results. The programme split the participants into many small groups of similar ability levels (beginner, intermediate and advanced) and helped develop their strength, coordination, balance and flexibility to avoid the future risk of falls. The results and feedback we had from the program were fantastic and many participants have either moved over into our Strength for Life Programme or our continuing in the No Falls Programme. The launch of the programme was boosted by a South Australian Government "Grant for Seniors" of \$9,000 which paramount in helping to get the project up and running.



# Team Sports

Team Sports continued to recover from the Covid-19 lockdowns, and teams returned to the sporting competitions in pleasing numbers. There was a surge in Mixed netball interest filling out both Sunday night and Monday night competitions. Volleyball was also a very popular team sport with our competition on a Wednesday reaching capacity.



At the end of the year we began looking into a sports management program that would accommodate all our team sports competitions on one singular unified system. The program that was chosen, "Fixi," allows for a streamlined processing of fixtures, results and premiership ladders. This automated system is more efficient, and provides a quicker turn around of results for all players. Teams and individual players are also able to access all information on-line via an App or on our website.



## **Retirement of our Junior Basketball Coordinator**

Barry has been our Junior Basketball Coordinator for close to 25 years and decided to hang up his whistle at the end of 2021. This is an extraordinary contribution to our Centre and the continued success of our Junior Basketball program is due to Barry's commitment and dedication to our young basketballers. In recognition of the many years of service Barry has provided the Centre, our two court stadium was renamed as the "Barry Hassam Stadium".



We will miss him, but wish him all the very best in his retirement.



# Sponsors



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Our Major Sponsor— Ring Partners Real Estate have been our major sponsor since the opening of the new centre in 2004. A fantastic commitment and one we value very highly.

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Member for Waite



Sam Duluk MP  
Member for Waite



Complete Podiatry



Northway Plumbing



Mole Checks Australia



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Mindful Body  
Fitness & Massage



Ryan Cumisky  
Liberty Advisor



My Dentist Blackwood

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MEMBER FOR BOOTHBY



Nicolle Flint MP  
Member for Boothby



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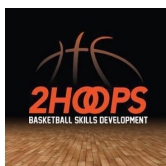


Blackwood Hire



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# Bronze Sponsors



2 Hoops  
Basketball

**We continue to be supported by many local businesses and their contribution to the centre is greatly appreciated.**