



Annual Report 2025

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Board Members

| | |
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| Garry Dolman | President |
| Neil White | Vice/Acting President & Rotary Club of Blackwood |
| Maricel Becirovic | Treasurer |
| Anton Hawdio | Secretary/Public Officer |
| Rhys Roberts | Committee Member & Lions Club of Blackwood |

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Carly Soutter | Committee Member |
| Ron Boath | Committee Member |
| Cheryl Deguet | Committee Member |
| Zane Basic | Committee Member |
| Vacant | City of Mitcham |

Management Team

Steve Woods
Pat Porter
Catherine Lyndon
Phoebe Cuthbertson & Sharon Stephens
Leanne Christinat

Centre Manager
Assistant Manager
Gymsports & Fitness Coordinator
Sports Coordinator
Finance Officer

Message from the President

The Blackwood Community Recreation Association Incorporated (BCRAI) continues to serve the local community by offering a wide range of fitness, recreation and leisure activities for everyone—from toddlers to those in their “prime” years. Its aim is to provide these opportunities in a cost-effective and accessible way.

The exciting news this year is that after many years of back and forth with the Department of Education and the City of Mitcham Council, we have finally got a Lease agreement which subject to approval by the crown solicitors’ will hopefully be signed in the next few months. The negotiations have been long and protracted, and at the end of the day while not perfect for any party, they are workable and give us the certainty to go forward. I would like to thank all parties for there input, but particularly the BCRAI Board members for the efforts they have put in to achieving this outcome. We have always focussed on ensuring the Centre stayed as a local and did not end up being put out to the private sector.

The other very positive story is that we have secured \$500,000 Grant from the federal government to do some upgrades to the facilities including the changerooms. The money should be forthcoming following the finalisation of the lease. Our thanks to Louise Miller-Frost for her efforts in securing this funding.

On a less positive note, there were issues with the Inline Hockey community, which led to the cancellation of their use of the facilities. I do not want to go through all the details again, as I believe there were issues on both sides that led to this position. The positive to come out of it all is that Inline Hockey is back in the Centre but under an improved governance structure that is working well for both parties. Steve Woods our Centre Manager has ensured that lines of communication are open, and issues have been resolved quickly and effectively. Also the committee of the Blaze Inline Hockey Club have been very focused on moving forward.

In part because of both the issues around Inline Hockey and the finalisation of the lease on the Centre, the Board is undertaking a complete overhaul of our governance, structure and policies. This work will be completed in the next few months and will most probably result in changes that will necessitate an emergency general meeting (EGM) and potentially new elections to the Board. However, the outcome should be an organisation fit for the future.



Message from the President

I would like to recognise two of our Board members who resigned during the last year. Rhys Roberts who has served on the Board since 2010 as a representative of the Lions Club of Blackwood as well as president of the association. His knowledge of and passion for the BCRAI has been inspirational and he will be greatly missed on the Board.

Garry Dolman served on the Board from 2019 to 2025 with his presidency running from 2022 to 2025. Garry was very passionate about the Centre and was always looking for ways to further the interests of the Association. Both Garry and Rhys will be missed but I am sure that they will still offer some sage advice with their continued involvement in the Fitness Studio and following their session over a coffee.

I would like to also recognise the rest of the Board who have volunteered their time to advance the interests of the Centre and put in concerted effort to move forward with the big issues we have faced in the last year.

Lastly my thanks to Steve and the staff who make it all happen and deal with the myriads of issues that occur from day to day with a smile on their face and a desire to ensure the best experience for all our patrons.

Neil White
Acting President

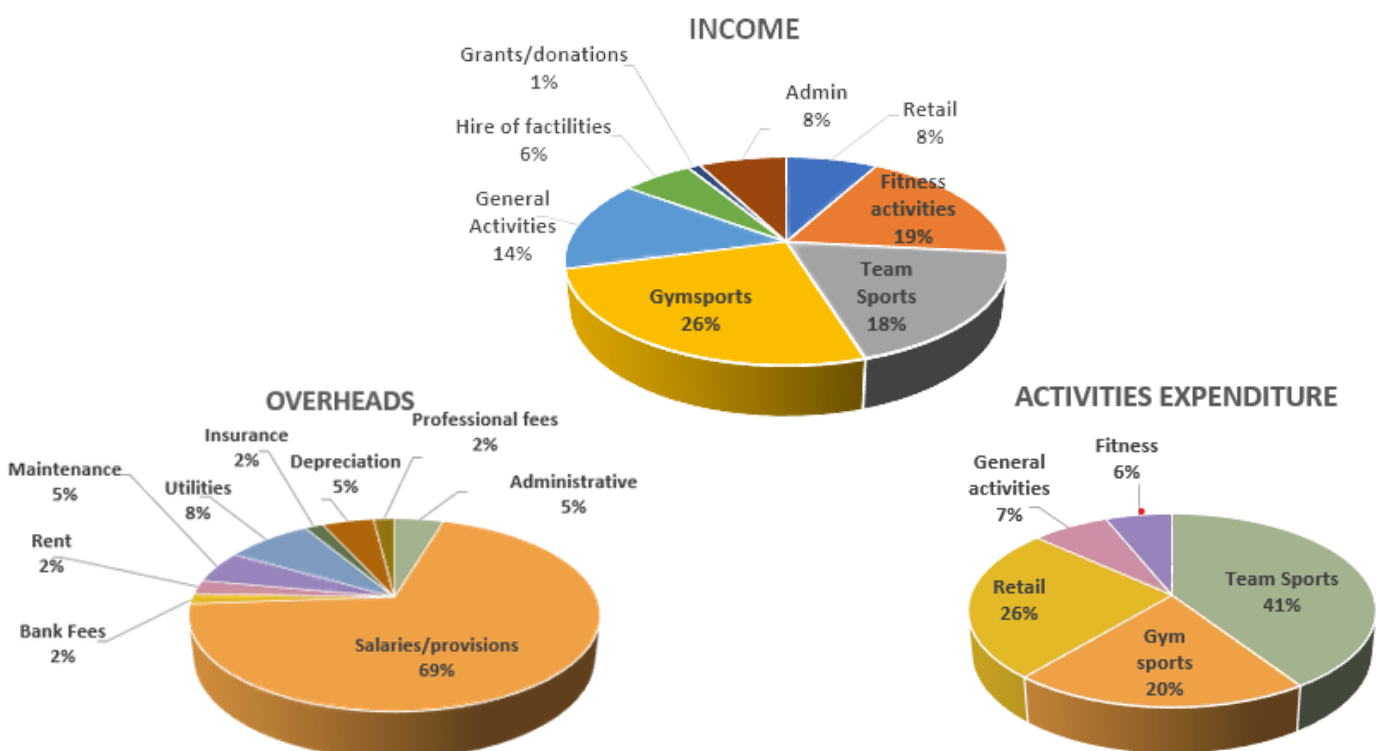
Treasurer's Report

The Blackwood Community Recreation Centre recorded an audited trading deficit of \$69,682 for the 2025 calendar year (2024: deficit of \$18,188).

Despite the trading deficit for the year the Centre remains in a positive net asset position and we are actively exploring ways to keep attracting new members and increase community involvement. The Centre's operating income decreased by 4.1% over the prior year. The main sources of revenue are activities income from Gymsports, Team Sports, Fitness and general activities which include roller skating and the VacFun holiday program. Out of all areas, Team Sports and Gymsports generated around 20% less income compared to last year mainly due less programs being offered by the Centre. This was partially offset by higher hire income. The Centre's overall expenditure decreased by 0.5% over the prior year. The area with the largest increase in expenditure over the prior year were costs associated with maintenance. Salaries and provisions are the largest expense of the Centre representing 57% of the overall expenditure, however as a percentage of income have remained consistent with the prior financial year.

Over \$36,000 was reinvested back into capital improvements and equipment for the Centre including a new treadmill and cross trainer for the Fitness Studio, 2 new split systems for the foyer and additional sporting and skate equipment. Other capital expenditure included new emergency exit doors, hot water service unit and a new computer for the administrative staff.

We would like to thank our generous donors and sponsors for providing their support to our programs and community. The audit of the 2025 financial statements has been completed and an unmodified audit opinion issued.



Community Events

Halloween Roller Discos

It was another successful year of Roller Skating events with another sell out for the Halloween Roller Disco. Once again, our incredible attendees dressed up in some amazing costumes, making it hard to choose the best dressed on the night. We were joined by face painters and a DJ making the night even more magical. A special thankyou to the City of Mitcham for their continued grant support to sponsor this event.

Biggest Morning Tea

We held a Biggest Morning Tea on 23rd of May to help raise funds for the Cancer Council. The Centre was filled with coffee and cake with a lot of our Fitness Studio members joining us for some morning tea after their class. The event raised over \$700 and we look forward to running more of these events in the future.

Family Fun Day

The Rec Centre was very excited to bring back the Family Fun Day. It was the second time we have run the event with the first being back in 2022. Our aim for the event was to showcase to the community all of our programs, help promote participation in sport and recreation and promote our sponsors, partnerships and other local community groups. All participants on the day had the opportunity to collect a goodie bag with giveaways from the Rec Centre and our sponsors. We had over 250 people come through the doors and it was lots of fun for all.



Gymsports

Blackwood Gymsports experienced a year of growth, innovation, and achievement. From grassroots participation initiatives to national representation, the program continues to strengthen its reputation within the gymnastics community.

2025 saw the introduction of termly free come & try's, designed to lower barriers to entry and encourage new families into our programs. These sessions have been well received with 167 participants utilising the offer and have contributed positively to term enrolments.

We also expanded our outreach efforts to local schools and kindergartens, offering a 10% discount on term fees on enrolments from participating schools. Many schools and kindergartens supported us by publishing our advertisements in newsletters and displaying promotional material within their facilities. This initiative has strengthened community awareness and improved accessibility to our programs and strengthened community relationships leading to increased excursion and OSHC bookings.

Three of our trampolining athletes secured state team representation at the 2025 Australian Gymnastics Championship. Our athletes travelled to the Gold Coast and represented the state in both trampolining and double mini trampolining. Our club highlight of the competition was Level 7 athlete Jade securing the all-around bronze medal, our first trampolining athlete in 10 years to do so.

Blackwood Gymsports was recognised at a state level with multiple nominations at the Gymnastics South Australia Annual Awards. Coach and athlete Jade was a finalist for trampolining Athlete of the Year, a well-deserved recognition for her outstanding performance at the national championships. For the third year running, Blackwood KinderGym was nominated for KinderGym of the Year for our outstanding programs and committed staff. Finally, Gymsports Coordinator Cat received the Rhythmic Gymnastics Coach of the Year Award for her work in the Rhythmic Sparkles program as well as her incredible commitment to her athletes and her impact on the wider community.

We are extremely proud of our growth in 2025 and look forward to new and exciting opportunities in 2026.



Fitness Studio

In 2025 the Fitness Studio has continued to strengthen as a welcoming and inclusive space for members of all ages and abilities. This year has been marked by community generosity, staffing transitions, and continued commitment to delivering quality services.

We were extremely fortunate to receive generous donations from both the Blackwood Lions Clubs and Rotary Club of Blackwood. These contributions enabled the Centre to fully fund the purchase of a new treadmill, enhancing the quality, safety and accessibility of our cardio equipment. This investment ensures members have access to reliable, modern equipment and reflects the strong community partnerships that underpins our success. We recognised both organisations with a dedicated plaque on the treadmill and named them as major sponsors for 2025. We extend our sincerest gratitude to Lions and Rotary for their continued support of community health and wellbeing initiatives.

We farewelled two truly remarkable women and celebrate their incredible legacies. After 29 and a half years of dedicated service, we said farewell to our much loved yoga teacher, Anneke Jeuken. Anneke's passion, calm presence, and deep love for her craft made her classes a favourite on our timetable for many years. She has inspired countless members through movement, mindfulness, and connection.

We also celebrate Margaret Thompson, who devoted an extraordinary 27 and a half years to the Centre. A fantastic Group Fitness instructor, Margaret is nothing short of inspirational. Still running classes well into her 90s, she's proof that age is never a barrier to strength, energy, and community.

In recognition of their outstanding commitment and contribution, the Blackwood Recreation Centre proudly voted at the end of the year to award Life Membership to both Anneke and Margaret, an honour so richly deserved. We are so grateful for the decades of service, inspiration, and heart they have given to our community and wish them well for their next chapter.

We look forward to another year of growth and continued service to our community.



Team Sports

The past year has been one of transition, growth, and resilience for team sports at Blackwood Recreation Centre. A key staffing change occurred during the year, with Phoebe commencing leave and new staff coming into the Sports coordinator position to manage the team sport programs. This transition has been managed smoothly, ensuring continuity across all competitions and programs and a special thank you to Sharon Stephens for all the great work she put in.

Investment in equipment has been a strong focus, improving both the quality and sustainability of our offerings. Two new volleyball nets and a replacement volleyball pole were purchased, allowing three older nets to be repurposed for school use. This has left the centre well-equipped with three high-quality nets and a spare for competitions. Additional upgrades included six court floor cover discs and the implementation of a new storage system, improving efficiency and organisation. Across other sports, new equipment acquired included 50 indoor pickleballs, a futsal ball, a soccer ball, and five basketball nets.

Weather conditions had a notable impact during the summer season. In February, extreme heat led to the cancellation of several days of competitions resulting in a total of 51 games being cancelled. March saw disruptions to schedules, with junior basketball games cancelled also due to hot weather.

Participation across sports continues to be encouraging. Pickleball, in particular, has experienced significant growth, with regular attendance reaching approximately 24 players on Fridays and 14 on Tuesdays. Interest in all competitions remains high, with a growing waiting list of teams looking to join in 2026.

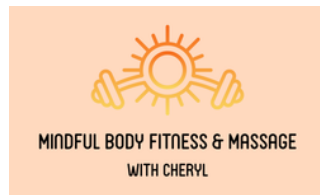
Competition interruptions were also experienced due to necessary court repairs during the season. While these works impacted scheduling across most sports, it is pleasing that competitions maintained strong participation numbers and continued successfully despite these disruptions.

Overall, the year has demonstrated the strength and adaptability of the Blackwood Recreation Centre sporting community. With continued investment in equipment, growing participation, and a focus on addressing officiating capacity, the centre is well-positioned for further growth in the coming year.



Sponsors

GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



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

Partners & Community Groups

- AH Trophies
- AUSactive
- Australian Institute of Personal Trainers
- Blackwood Blaze Inline Hockey
- Blackwood Gymsports
- Blackwood High School
- Lacrosse South Australia
- Carer's SA
- City of Mitcham
- Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club
- Flinders University
- Flinders Uni Volleyball Club
- Gymnastics South Australia
- Meaningful Movement Physio
- Mindful Body Fitness and Massage
- Reach Exercise Physiology
- South Australian Parkour Association
- Skate SA
- Speed Skating South Australia
- The Science Collective
- United Gymsports
- 2 Hoops Basketball