

2011 C.H.C.U.F.C President's AGM Report

Once again our club is the dominant senior club winning the men's first grade grandfinal and missing out in extra time in the women's first grade grandfinal. Though our women's reserve grade had a comfortable grandfinal win. Though not being in the finals for the first time in the reserve/youth grade is something that we cannot repeat.

The junior's highlight was our under 16s thrilling grandfinal win in extra time which bodes well for the future. Our under 12s were unfortunate grandfinal losers but played some fantastic football.

I suppose this is an appropriate time to renew my call for our club to improve its junior numbers. I know this sentiment is shared by the committee. One of the things that should help with this, is the strength of our junior coaches. I believe we have by far the best qualified and maybe more significantly experienced coaches in the area. Most of our coaches have played at decent levels and understand the importance of technical skills and the need to make the game fun.

As a club we have made some hard decisions to keep our club strong and progressive. Leaving the showground was one of those hard decisions that meant a cultural change within our club. Also we haven't been helped by the governing bodies. Possibly our next challenge is putting lights, of playing standard in at McLean Street. We know that putting night games back on the draw is what our club is about. Having all our senior teams playing on the same day one after each other gives us strength. It also gives our juniors a chance to see our senior teams play. As we speak our club has an application for a grant to put lights on McLean Street. If we are successful, the erection of lights could be here sooner than later. If we aren't then we need to look at how this is going to happen. One thing for sure is that we need to raise some monies, and I mean serious money. That may mean as a club we need to look at making those hard decisions again. Also we need to support the hard work people put in to hold fund raisers. I believe if we were to run the bingo and the beer and wine tasting nights again, we should pack the place. Well done Renee.

I would like to see more parents having input to our club's decision making process by being on the committee. This can only help make us a more competitive and informed club. This might mean providing smaller jobs for people to commit to, so people can volunteer with some confidence of how much time is required of them.

I would like to thank the 2011 committee for their commitment and tireless work towards making our club so successful. After Greg Singleton's resignation early this year we were struggling a bit, and then riding in from a long white cloud, John Saunders volunteered to do our books as treasurer. John has been a pleasure to work with and is more than competent at what he does. I would like to pay tribute to Greg who gave us several years of service and was largely responsible for the success of our summer six a side competition. Not having a secretary for most of the year put far too much pressure on the whole committee and this has to be a priority to have this position filled. Once again a personal thanks to Noel Goodworth who does so much for this club. Noel sees something

that isn't happening and just gets in and does it. I worry we're going to burn him out and he is one of the people I think would benefit from more people involved through smaller jobs within the club. Noel has been assisted in getting our summer six a side competition up and running again by Jason Kelly. We have a record number of teams again, 84. That's over 600 players turning up on Tuesday nights. We need to help anytime we can on the Tuesday nights by doing a stint in the canteen and assisting the packing up at the end of the night. Cath and Steve thanks for doing a lot of tasks that weren't in your portfolio that helped take some pressure off.

Our research shows that our club started in 1972 which means next season is our 40th anniversary. Maybe a club reunion would be an appropriate way to celebrate this fantastic milestone.

In closing I again thank everyone for their support. I know you know I'm a reluctant president not because I don't feel honoured, as I do but like a lot of you, work commitments seem to grow which makes it difficult to give the time that this position requires. We are a good club who are the envy of many but remember this "Ask not what my club can do for me but what can I do for my club".

Regards
Glenn Pearson
President
2011