



Presidents Report 2009

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Club Goonellabah it gives me great pleasure in presenting the Presidents Report for the year ended 30 September 2008.

It has been 12 months since the current Board of Directors took on the challenges and responsibilities of operating the Goonellabah & District Soccer Club. During these past 12 months we have seen a continued growth in membership and patronage of the club. Even during these uncertain times, it is pleasing to see that the club is a haven from the stresses of daily life.

Through the commitment and efforts of the Board of Directors and the Secretary Manager, an audited operating profit of \$51,000.00 was achieved during the 2008 financial year. This operating profit is a significant increase to the loss of \$18,000.00 in 2007. However, I must emphasize, that the improved profits for 2008 could not have been achieved without the efforts and vision of the previous Board of Directors to renovate and modernize the interior of the club 2 years ago.

The financial reports for 2008 show a strong cash flow position which will enable the Club to continue improving the facilities for the benefit of all members.

During the past year many new improvements were added to the Club:

- The club introduced a website to allow members and football players easy access important information about the Club.
- Mid way through the year 3 new poker machines were added which generated some additional interest in the gaming area.
- The new WP1 centre field lights were installed and are now ready for use in the upcoming season.
- The new fencing around WP2 was also completed
- Plans for the redevelopment of the kitchen began as well.

In June 2008, Club Goonellabah applied to the Lismore City Council to upgrade the existing kitchen facilities with the hope of getting the new kitchen completed before the football season ended. However, due to some oversights on both our part and the councils we eventually received the approval from Council in November.

Most of you would be aware that much of the development and expansion of the club over the years has been achieved through the efforts of volunteers. These efforts were timely and necessary, but a few of the short cuts taken back then did come back

to bite us and caused lengthy delays in the Development Application. Although, this was a prolonged endeavour with the Council I am pleased to say that as the owner of the property the Council have been very supportive of our application for the Bistro improvements.

We are now underway with the construction of a new state of the art Bistro style kitchen. More details about the Bistro operation including operating times, menus and how it will be run will be posted on the notice board in the near future. The design of the new Bistro kitchen has been posted on the notice board for all to see.

On a personal note, I see the Bistro development as a turning point for Club Goonellabah. This is a giant step forward as the Club strives to become a prominent establishment in the community with a friendly atmosphere and quality meals at competitive prices.

I like to think of this as **"The Best Little Club in Town"**

- As part of the Bistro development, the Club is upgrading the electrical services into the building and rewiring the supply to the entire building. The additional load on the system with the new WP1 lights has taken the electrical demand beyond a safe level for the current system. The electrical upgrade will bring the Club up to Standard and allow for future expansion.

2008 was also the 20th Anniversary Year for the Licensed Club. A very successful weekend of entertainment and social interaction took place in December. A special Sunday lunch was held for all current and former Directors of the club as a thank you for the time and effort expended over the years to cement the foundations of this Club. The current Board felt that this was an excellent opportunity to give something back to the members of the Club. Those that attended the festivities all had a wonderful time.

With that in mind, 2009 is the 40th Anniversary of The Goonellabah & District Soccer Club. I am sure the incoming Board will have great enjoyment working with the Football Committee in planning the 40th Anniversary Celebrations for June.

Some of the main items that will be included in the plans for the 2009 Board will include:

- Establishing a 5 year plan for the Club.
- Renewing the current Lease with the Lismore City Council
- Evaluating expansion plans for the Club.

I'd like to thank the Secretary Manager, Sue McCarthy for a tremendous job all year. And thanks to the wonderful staff, Andrew, Stacey, Rhonda and Lyn that have helped make it a pleasure to come to the club.

On the football side of things,
I keep reminding myself and others that this Club only exists because of the football. So the efforts of Tony Denny and the whole Football Committee deserve a big thanks for the hard work in putting together an excellent season of football last year.

The Club received an award from the Association for having the largest increase in players in the district. This was also the first season of the small sided games, which took an extra amount of organisation. I am sure the committee is anticipating another huge uptake in players as the great reputation of the Goonellabah Football Club spreads.

Recently, a new alliance has been established between the Licensed Club and the Football Committee. Both groups believe this will make for a more clearly defined and equitable balance of responsibilities and financial implications.

I could expound on the fortunes of some of our teams and not so fortunate outcomes for other teams, but needless to say I am not aware of a player in the club that did not enjoy the 2008 season at Goonellabah FC. I am sure that all those and more will be back fighting for places on the various squads.

The Board and the Football Committee are pleased to welcome back Brendan Logan as the Premier Squad coach and John Vanry as the Senior Women's coach. With the strong guidance and direction from Gavin Witney, the Director of Coaching, I am sure the Club will see another successful year of football.

Lastly, there will be some additional upgrades to the grounds prior to the new season beginning.

- Field conditioning
- New Fencing on WP1
- New Team Sheds on WP2
- Upgrade of the Refs room downstairs.
- New Sign on WP1 opposite the club

We all look forward to another exciting year of Football at the club.

In closing I would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank all of the members of the Board for their commitment and efforts during 2008. It was a pleasure working with everyone.

And lastly, I would like to thank to the members of the Club for their support over the past 12 months.

Thank You.