



AVOCA HOCKEY CLUB
A.G.M. 25TH MAY 2020, VIA ZOOM
DIRECTOR OF HOCKEY REPORT 2019 /20

GOOD EVENING

PRESIDENT CAROLINE, VP BEN, DIRECTORS, FELLOW COMMITTEE AND ALL OTHER MEMBERS

I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF WHAT I'VE CONSIDERED MY ROLE TO HAVE BEEN OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, AND AS THE TITLE DoH INFERS, IT COVERED PRIMARILY HOCKEY RELATED MATTERS ACROSS THE WHOLE CLUB – WHICH TO REMIND US CONSISTS OF 6 MAIN COMPONENTS. AND I PURPOSELY USE THE WORD COMPONENT RATHER THAN SECTION, WHICH HAS A SLIGHT DIVISIVE TONE TO IT. WE ARE ALL PART OF a CLUB AND GROWING AND DEVELOPING THIS THEME FORMS PART OF THE 5 YEAR PLAN RECENTLY INTRODUCED

THE 6 MAIN PARTS AS I SAW THEM BEING; THE JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS, THE MENS AND LADIES TEAMS AND THE MENS VETS AND LADIES VETS. I HAD THE LEAST ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LATTER 2, APART FROM COACHING AT SOME AT THE MONDAY NIGHT SKILL SESSIONS. I ALSO DECLINED AN INVITATION TO PLAY WITH THE MENS VETS ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, BUT FORTUNATELY WAS ABLE TO ACCEPT THEIR INVITATION FOR DRINKS AFTERWARDS.

SO APART FROM THE VETS, WITHIN EACH OF THE OTHER 4 MAIN PARTS, VARIOUS ELEMENTS EXIST

- JUNIORS, OR THE DEVELOPMENT YEARS AS THEY COULD/SHOULD BE LABELLED , HAS NON-COMPETITIVE AND COMPETITIVE SCENARIOS AND AS MENTIONED, CIRCA 500 YOUNG PLAYERS, NOT FORGETTING THE MANY MANAGERS, OTHER VOLUNTEERS AND DELIVERY DRIVERS
- WITHIN THE MENS AND LADIES THERE ARE 4 AND 5 TEAMS RESPECTIVELY, WITH PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THIS NUMBER

HERE ARE SOME (FURTHER) STATS DERIVED FROM THE LHA MATCHCARDS & CLUBFORCE DETAILS, MEMBERS IN SENIOR CLUB

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ADULT</u>	<u>3RD LEVEL</u>	<u>U18S/COLTS</u>	<u>VETS</u>
LADIES 125	34, 26%	33, 26%	35+13, 40%	10, 8%
MEN 100	37, 37%	21, 21%	12+6, 18%	24, 24%* REFLECTING DADS & LADS
GIRLS 476				
BOYS 70				

<u>SENIOR</u>	<u>PLAYERS</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>MATCHES</u>	<u>GOALS</u>
LADIES	116 PLAYED	20	16	17	17	20	90	
	SCORED	23	24	21	24	27		119
		22	37	28	36	39	162 ACROSS ALL TEAMS	

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MEN	96 PLAYED	24	13	14	17		68	
	SCORED	84	17	53	25			179
		30	37	36	41		144 ACROSS ALL TEAMS	

RICHARD COUSE SCORED 34 OF THE 84 1STS GOALS, CLOSE TO 20% OF THE TOTAL, REMARKABLE. WORD IS THAT AFTER SURVIVING SOME ATROCIOUS TACKLING FOR MOST OF THE SEASON HE GOT INJURED SIDESTEPPING HIMSELF.

I CONDUCTED MY ROLE AS A FACILITATOR EACH OF THESE CLUB UNITS, WHICH INCLUDED LIAISING WITH EACH PIECE, THE APPOINTMENT & MANAGEMENT OF COACHES, THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES NEEDED, AN INTRODUCTION OF SELECTION PROCESSES AND VARIOUS GUIDELINES.

I WAS VERY FORTUNATE TO BE ONE OF A GREAT GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS ON THE CLUB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS & THRASH THESE OUT WITH, AND WHERE THERE WERE GAPS, JUNIOR GIRLS CHAIR & MENS CLUB CAPTAIN WE ALL PULLED TOGETHER AS BEST WE COULD.

LOOK, THE LIGHT MAY HAVE BLINKED A BIT AT TIMES (SO NOT JUST THE FLOODLIGHTS!) BUT HOPEFULLY IT WAS BRIGHT ENOUGH FOR PEOPLE ACROSS THE CLUB TO SEE WHAT WE WERE TRYING TO DO.

THE APPOINTMENT OF A CLUB ADMINISTRATOR LAST SEASON WAS (I AGREE) A SIGNIFICANT STEP. AND AL WORKED & CONTINUES TO WORK TIRELESSLY EVOLVING THE ROLE. I WORKED INITIALLY WITH AL AND OTHERS SETTING UP A JUNIOR COACHES SCHEDULE. NIKKI SQUIRE WHO DID A GREAT JOB ORGANISING ALL IN FOXROCK WAS ALSO INVOLVED. AL LATER AUTOMATED THE SCHEDULE, BIG KUDOS THERE.

I CONTINUED TO MEET WITH AL ON THE SCHEDULE & MANY OTHER ISSUES DURING THE SEASON.

ONE POINT I'D LIKE TO MENTION GIVEN THAT WE NOW HAVE A TOP ADMINISTRATOR IN PLACE, AND RECOGNISING THE CURRENT NUMBERS ABOVE, WITH SOME INCREASE LIKELY, IT IS VITAL THAT THE QUALITY OF COACHING ACROSS THE CLUB IS NOT DILUTED.

I'VE ALWAYS TRIED TO FULFIL MY ROLE VIA THE FOLLOWING ROUTE;
REVIEW WHAT WE'VE DONE, MONITOR WHAT WE'RE DOING, CREATE A VISION, PLAN HOW TO GET THERE, IMPLEMENT. BASICALLY ANOTHER LAYER ONTO WHATS THERE ALREADY ADDING STRENGTH & STABILITY.

TO DO THIS PROPERLY INVOLVED TEAMS OF PEOPLE – WITH DIFFERENT SKILLS, PERSONALITIES, ALL WITH A COMMON GOAL. THE TRAINING SCHEDULE JUST MENTIONED ONE EXAMPLE.

SUCCESSES / FAILINGS – YES THERE WERE

IS IT A SUCCESS THAT, AS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY, ONE SENIOR TEAM TOPPED THEIR LEAGUE, ONE BOTTOMED AND THE REMAINING 7 RETAINED THEIR STATUS – OR IS IT A FAILURE THAT MORE TEAMS DIDN'T WIN THEIR LEAGUES? IS IT A SUCCESS TO GET TO A SEMI FINAL, OR A FAILURE WHEN NOT GETTING TO THE FINAL

OKAY SO LOOKING AT IT DIFFERENTLY, HIGHS & LOWS.....

THE HIGHS – 9 SENIOR TEAMS PLAYING COMPETITIVELY REGULARLY ON SATURDAYS, NEARLY 550 GIRLS AND BOYS APPEARING ON SUNDAYS, A MENS & LADIES VETS TEAMS DURING THE WEEK...FANTASTIC

THE LOWS – NOTHING THAT CAN'T AND WON'T BE WORKED ON.

ONE HIGH WORTH SPECIAL MENTION IS THE REVIVAL OF THE M4S, FOLLOWING THE HUGELY SUCCESSFUL DADS & LADS INIATIVE RUN BY D O'C. HOPEFULLY THIS CAN BE REPLICATED WITH A SIMILAR OUTCOME FOR THE LADIES, SORRY I CAN'T REMEMBER WHETHER ITS MUMS & CHUMS OR MOTHERS & OTHERS, BUT YOU GET THE DRIFT, I HOPE?

TO CONCLUDE I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT I HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PRES CAROLINE, VP BEN & THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

MANY THANKS TO ALL THE COACHES, MANAGERS AND CAPTAINS PUTTING IN THE LONG UNSEEN HOURS PREPARING AND GETTING THE TEAMS OUT TO REPRESENT AVOCA HOCKEY CLUB.

I CANNOT LET THIS OCCASION GO BY WITHOUT A SPECIAL WORD FOR OUR MENS AND LADIES FIRST TEAM COACHES MARK CULLEN AND RONAN HICKEY, WHO ARE STEPPING DOWN AFTER 10 AND 7 YEARS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES. I AM SURE YOU WILL JOIN ME IN THANKING THEM FOR THEIR INPUT AND COMMITMENT OVER THIS PERIOD.

FINALLY I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE MEMBERS, YOUNG AND OLDER, WITHOUT YOU WE WOULDN'T HAVE A CLUB! I HAVE HAD THE HONOUR AND PLEASURE OF COACHING MANY OF YOU AND WHO KNOWS WE MIGHT WORK TOGETHER SOME TIME AGAIN IN THE FUTURE.

TAKE CARE, STAY SAFE, KEEP EXERCISING!