



WELLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB (INC)

Founded 1870

New Zealand's Oldest Playing Through Rugby Club

154th Annual Report & Statement of Accounts



PAST PATRONS

1970-1971	Weir, GH	2006-2016	McCarrison, IE
1972-1974	Jackson, GFW	2017-2018	Blackburn, M
1974-2005	Cragg, JL	2018-2019	Wills, HJ

PAST PRESIDENTS

1878-1880	Fitzherbert, Sir WM KCMG	1964-1966	Page, Brig JR CBE DSO
1881-1883	Pearce, Colonel E	1967-1970	Cragg, JL
1884-1893	Levin, WH	1971-1973	McLennan, AC
1894-1897	Werry, NW	1974-1978	Taylor, JM
1898-1904	Bate, AT	1980-1982	Trapp, HH
1905-1909	Smith, J Eman	1983-1984	Dean, AA
1910-1922	Ronaldson, TS OBE	1985-1986	Evans, JEB
1923-1929	Fache, GC OBE	1987-1988	McCarrison, IE
1930-1933	Murray, J OBE	1989-1991	Blackburn, M
1934	McEvedy, Dr PF	1992-1993	Wills, HJ
1935	Murray, J	1993-1996	Brien, WA MNZM ED JP
1936-1940	Thompson, John	1997-1999	Stein, SE
1941-1944	Fowler, JH	2000-2001	Muir, A
1945-1947	Bayfield, AD	2002-2003	Froggatt, DR
1948-1949	Jackson, FW	2004-2007	Gallagher, RG
1950-1956	Weir, GH	2008-2010	Jones, LH
1957-1959	Kilby, FD	2011-2014	Graham, Ross J
1960-1961	Hislop, FW	2015-2020	Quinn, Keith
1962-1963	Compton, E		

VICE PRESIDENTS

Alabaster, DB	Froggatt, DR	McKay, PB	Raemaki, T
Andrews, BB	Fuller, SE	McKenzie, LV	Rush, Erin
Attfield, Sally	Gard'ner, BF	McLennan, AC	Russell, Francis
Boyd, DG	Graham, RJ	McLeod, IS	Saunders, RD
Bridge, MI	Horsley, GJ	Menzies, B	Sellers, PHJ QSM
Byford, RJ	Hughes, NW	Millar, PW	Siversen, PA
Conway, J	Jack, PA QSM	Muir, A	Smith, K
Crist, WF	Jones, LH	Newson, IA	Stoddart, A
Daniel, Major FW MBE JP	Jones, Mrs Sue	Nichols, B	Tait, KM
Domett, D	Judd, J	Nichols, R	Tolov'a, M
Duffey, SL	Knight, MO	Nodder, BJ	Turner, MT
Evans, JEB	Laney, WA	Norgate, DF	Watene, FG
Evans, RM QSM	Lines, IE	Owens, BW	
Fai, G	Mackay, WM	Parkin, RH	

LIFE MEMBERS

Attfield, Sally	2016	Judd, JD	2018
Ballinger, S	2018	Kendall, P	2020
Blue, K	2018	Manaena, W	2022
Bridge, M	2019	Mexted, MG	1988
Conway, J	1997	Moon, BG	1970
Deck, R	2019	Moore, B	2013
Fifita, V	2017	Muir, A	1985
Froggatt, DR	1999	Pierce, MJ	1991
Fuller, S	2020	Quinn, K	2020
Gard'ner, B	2019	Raemaki, T	2003
Graham, RJ	2015	Robinson, M	2018
Harrison, S	2017	Rush, E	2018
Hughes, NW	2002	Stein, SE	1999
Jack, P QSM	2013		

PAST LIFE MEMBERS

Abraham, PAT	1970-80	Gallagher, RG	2011-2020
Barron, CS	1945-94	Gibbes, AO	1896-16
Bate, AT	1922	Gifford, MF	2013-13
Batkin, EC	1914	Guild, H	1976
Bayfield, D	1932-60	Hempton, JH	1896-14
Bell, Sir Francis	1936	Hislop, FW	1945-96
Blackburn, M	1976	Hislop, HK	1948-05
Bond, F	1929-58	Horsley ,H	1964-65
Bracken, JH	1945-98	Horsley, RH	1976-07
Brien, WA MNZM ED JP	1978-2010	Hurne-Miller, C	1964-92
Burns, ER	1945-89	Ivoiry, RL	1929-83
Burton, GH	1950-85	Jackman, GW B OBE JP	1950-06
Carey, R	1909-48	Jackson, GFW	1929-74
Cathie, CH MC	1949-98	James, WP	1909
Chatwin, FL	1936-59	Johnson, LM	1932-83
Chote, IC	1965-2012	Kendal, PH	2013
Climo, I J	1949-87	Kenny, HW QSM	1974-01
Cochrane, SR	1945-71	Kilby, FD	1933-85
Cooper, MM CBE	1940-89	Knapp, CA	1927
Cowie, TSM	1931	Kofoed, JW	1953-80
Cowley, R	1994-2020	Kreeft, CW	1899-24
Cragg, JL	1948-05	Kreeft, EAO	1929
Dalton, RA	1978-97	King, AN	1962-84
Dean, AA	1985-08	Levin, RL	1894-53
Evans, JEB	2000	Levin, WL	1894-15
Fache, GC OBE	1900-48	Lindsay, L	2008-10
Firth, JP CMG	1931	Lloyd, BJ	1954-77
Francis, WC MBE	1977-81	Lynch, RF	1939
Galbraith, N	1900-48	Lindsay, L	2008-11
Gallagher, B	1907-38	McCarrison, IE	1980-2016

McEvedy, Dr PF	1930-35	Smith, HD	1965-69
McKellar, GF	1935-60	Smith, JE	1916
McLachlan, AP	1965-68	Stevens, DA CBE	1949-80
McLennan, AC	1960-03	Stock, JH	1914-32
McLean, HF	1987-97	Taylor, JM	1948-79
McLean, WGI	1950-99	Tennent, CE	1935-77
Manson, CH	1907-64	Thompson, John	1924-59
Meredith, Sir Vincent	1903-85	Thompson, Johnson	1885
Morrah, HE	1939-43	Thomson, AD	1943
Murray, J OBE	1910-67	Thorburn, SA	1969-98
Nichols, B	1993	Tossman, B	1976-01
Nichols, R	1993	Tossman, A	1953-07
Oldershaw, J	1980	Trapp, HH	1940-90
Oliver, DJ	1988-90	Treadwell, Dr WJ	1997-2012
Opie, MJD	1969-07	Turner, JAG	1962-86
Page, Brig JR CBE DSO	1967-86	Webb, PP	1920
Palliser, CW	1935	Weir, GH	1929-71
Pollen, H	1913	Werry, NW	1987
Roache, JG	1932-47	Williams, GC	1976
Ronaldson, TS OBE	1931	Wills, HJ	1994-2019
Smith, AT	1949-80	Wilson, JS	1907-71
		Whyborn, WR	1945-82

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CAPS

The following club members have been awarded Distinguished Service Caps since the inception of the award in 1989.

1989	Tony Anker	Malcolm Bridge	Jack Cragg	
1990	John Conway	Nigel Hughes	Ron Nichols	
1991	Bill Brien	Cyril Hurne Miller	Fred Hislop	Ian McCarrison
1992	Mick Kenny	Barry Nichols	Jack Oldershaw	
1993	Mattie Blackburn	Bernie Tossman		
1994	Bill Laney	Bill McLean		
1995	Ron Howatson	John Plunkett	Stu Thorburn	Jack Wills
1996	Hector Guild	George Metuarau		
1997	Doug Froggatt	Alan Muir		
1998	Len Lindsay	Ivor Newson	Barry Owens	
1999	Kerry Plunkett	Melody Robinson	John Tutt	Peter Wiley
2000	James Mulcahy	Erin Rush	Kevin Smith	
2001	Derek Alabaster	David Boyd	Chris O'Connor	
2002	Lloyd Jones			
2003	Bruce Moore			
2013	Murray Mexted			
2015	Jason Judd			
2017	Erin Rush	Nigel Solomon		
2019	Walker Manaena	Lionel Lee	Lucy Barry	
2022	Paul Bracewell	Sarah Bracewell		

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2022-23

Patron	Murray Mexted		
President	Nigel Hughes		
Chair Person	Paul Bracewell		
Secretary	Jason Judd		
Treasurer	Sally Attfield		
Club Captain	Walker Manaena		
Historian	Peter Jack		
Board Members	Paul Bracewell (Chairman)	Johnny Curtis	Michael Treadwell
	Zane Bennett	Sarah Bracewell	
Junior Convenor	Stuart McKenzie		
Honorary Solicitor	Nigel Hughes – Hughes Robertson		
WRFU Delegate	Hamish Girvan		



Minutes of the Wellington Football Club (Inc) 153rd Annual General Meeting

14th November 2022 at 6.00pm

Present

Paul Bracewell (Chairman), Hamish Girvan, Keith Quinn, Bruce Moore, Michael Langley (WRFU), Peter Jack, Jason Judd, Cam Roseingrave, Walker Manaena, Dion Waller, Rory MacLellan, Neil Jackson, Lionel Lee, Wayne Sio and Jeff Wakapelu.

Apologies

Mical Treadwell, Sarah Bracewell, Murray Mexted, John Conway, Johnny Curtis, Nigel Hughes, James Lawler, Sally Attfield, Zane Bennett, Ross Graham and Ian Smith.

Moments Silence for Past Members

Paul Bracewell requested a moments silence to recognise a number of members who had passed away since the last AGM. RIP.

Minutes of the 152nd AGM held 8th November 2021

Paul Bracewell asked that the minutes of the 152nd AGM be adopted as presented in the annual report. No changes or amendments required/noted. *Moved by Paul Bracewell and seconded by Jason Judd.*

Co-Chairman's Address

Paul Bracewell made a special welcome to all of our Life Members, WRFU representatives and all club members. Paul then précised the comments from his report.

2022 was a tough year on the field but he remains very proud of what the club achieved. A number of tough conversations occurred throughout the season with opinions voiced with constructive comments, some dark truths and difficult conversations. This has led to some big decisions and positive outcomes.

The Colts were a highlight and we fought hard to keep them going – they really are the future. Strong numbers in the U85kgs and the Pressies kept going. The U16 initiative run by WRFU was awesome and was a chance for us to reconnect with younger players. Once again we had strong junior participation.

Recruitment for 2023 is underway and is well advanced. We fielded three teams in the Ambassador 7's and the coaches are in place with good player numbers and interest.

So, the signs are good for next year.

Financial Accounts

Hamish Girvan presented the accounts. Your club remains in a sound position. A net profit of \$45k represents another extraordinary result.

The club remains debt free (except for normal accounts payable) with net assets of \$448k. Treasurer, Sally Attfield has once again done a fantastic job in maintaining governance and structure to our finances.

Subs improved once again, good income across bar, we have been successful in a number of grants while costs have been maintained well. Paul asked that the accounts be accepted – *this was moved by Lucy Barry and seconded by Scott Fuller.*

Election of Officers

Co-chairman Hamish Girvan announced that would be stepping aside as Co-Chairman and from the Board. Hamish has been instrumental in seeing the new structure through and has offered calm and assured advice over this time. Lucy Barry, also announced that she would be stepping down from the Board having been in administration roles since 2012. She won't bel ost to the club with her boys still playing so will see her around. Paul recognised their massive contributions to the club and thanked them for their service.

Paul Bracewell was nominated as Chairman and elected unopposed.

Remaining roles nominated and appointed unopposed as follows :

Patron	Murray Mexted		
President	Nigel Hughes		
Chair Person	Paul Bracewell		
Secretary	Jason Judd		
Treasurer	Sally Attfield		
Club Captain	Walker Manaena		
Historian	Peter Jack		
Board Members	Paul Bracewell (Chairman)	Johnny Curtis	Michael Treadwell
	Zane Bennett	Sarah Bracewell	
Junior Convenor	Stuart McKenzie		
Honorary Solicitor	Nigel Hughes – Hughes Robertson		
WRFU Delegate	Hamish Girvan		

Other honorary roles carried over.

Paul Bracewell asked that the election of officers be accepted – *moved by Keith Quinn and seconded by Jason Judd.*

Subscriptions

Will be left to the incoming Committee. Noted that would likely continue with the \$150 per player and honorary at \$75 as per 2022.

General Business

- Nigel Hughes moved that Walker Manaena be made a Life Member of the WFC. Walker has given tremendous service in numerous roles over many years. Nigel outlined some of these roles and summarized the tremendous effort Walker has contributed to the club. The nomination was roundly approved to much applause by all, and particularly the Pressies.
- Keith Quinn nominated Paul and Sarah Bracewell for Distinguished Service Caps. *The nomination was seconded by Nigel Hughes and unanimously endorsed.* Unfortunately one half of this dynamic duo couldn't be there, Sarah, so we will find another appropriate time to recognise her and award the cap. This award is richly deserved and congratulations to both.
- Jason Judd thanked Rebecca Wedge and Bunkhouse Graphic Design Ltd for the ongoing work in this area and once again expect to see an excellent production of the Annual Report once all inputs have been received.
- Peter Jack raised several points for discussion and consideration that remain outstanding:
 - Requested that the Board update photos of the Patrons, ensuring that Jack Wills and Murray Mexted are added.
 - The Honours Board is running out of space so new Boards or options required.
 - Queried where the effigy of Graham Williams has gone and suggested a cup be created in Grahams name – perhaps Club Player of the Year.

The Board agreed to investigate and prioritise all the above in 2023.

No further General Business was discussed.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Nigel Hughes

Once again, a season that, at the outset, seemed to hold good promise. Then it felt like it may have had an attack of long COVID as player numbers fluctuated during the pre-season trainings and outings.

Coupled with that, we seemed to have had our gumboots out early this year in Wellington which was a deterrent to some and also seems to have affected the availability of grounds for pre-season training and matches. The annual fight over Hataitai Park with Wellington Softball and the softball fences caused significant frustration to coaches, players and management.

Then it became apparent that we would not for the first time in memory, have a Pressies team, although a number of the Pressies players were supportive throughout the season both in preparation of grounds before and after matches and, of course, supporting the bar later on.

Through a good deal of hard work we managed to have a Prem team, a Reserve team, U85s and a Colts side.

The Junior Club was up and running early and as has happened in recent years provided excellent numbers on Thursday and some Friday nights and also on Saturday nights after matches. For the home matches it was great to have Junior club members as ball boys and ball girls all doing a great job.

Once again the efforts of Paul and his board off the field provided a solid working structure and ensured our facilities were well utilised and maintained with Johnny coming to the fore.

Again, Sarah, Charlotte and Bec's crew in the kitchen (in competition with Johnny) provided regular meals for both teams at home games as well as for a good number of the club members as well.

Old Timers Day didn't have quite the celebration we had last year with the presentation of the WRFU plaques, but we certainly made up for that with the Women at WFC evening on 17 June. The club belatedly recognised all of its Black Ferns, with the presentation of life members badges, distinguished services caps and rosettes, which resulted in a truly full club rooms. The presentations were led by Keith and Hamish and NZRU were in attendance as well.

As I write there is news afoot of arriving coaches and players to assist our numbers in the Premiers which will no doubt be shortly announced.

Finally to note, just as in previous years, that despite some of the results, in all the games that I attended this year with Peter and Keith, the support, passion and commitment of players, coaches and management was excellent.

Give 'em the Axe.



CHAIR PERSONS REPORT

Paul Bracewell

One of the great things about sport is that when it gets tough, you see who fronts up. The standings show it was a challenging season on-field for our Premier Team. However, what the results do not reveal is how these men rallied around each other continually. Nor do the results show the impressive rebuild that has occurred with our 2nd XV, with up to 27 players turning up to training at the end of the season. Their energy and growth lead them to being awarded JH Fowler Club Team of the Year. Our Under 85s continued to be a vibrant team. Importantly, they proved to be excellent ambassadors for rugby and our club when they played a friendly against St Pats College U85's in their preparation for the College Winter Tournament week. As for the Colts, one of the best measures of success is how many return: early reports indicate that all those who are staying in the region will be staying with the club, which is outstanding. Equally as important was the increased number of players towards the end of the season who wanted to play Premier rugby.

Whilst the players fronted up, and played with courage and flair, especially towards the back end of the season, the number of volunteers who unwaveringly backed our teams is notable.

80's Premier hardmen, Mical Treadwell (Director) and Nigel Hughes (President) carried an impressive workload and were massive contributors off-field. Statesmen, Keith Quinn and Peter Jack were ever present on the sideline. Axemen of the Year and Premier front rower, Cam Roseingrave was a massive contributor in all aspects of our club: playing, coaching U85's and the Year 7/8 as well as rolling up his sleeves and helping out wherever needed off-field. Premier Captain, Will Cosgriff, was also impressive in his work in the club and his leadership had a positive influence on the team culture.

Senior trainings were well attended, helped by the quality of dinners produced every Thursday, by a small band of loyal volunteers, led by Sarah Bracewell and often assisted by Bec McKenzie. Johnny Curtis and Club Captain Walker Manaena also shouldered the load in turning out meals. Heading into the 2024 season, on the first Thursday of every month the whole club will come together to share a meal.

Deserved recipient of the "One Club Ambassador" award, Johnny Curtis was relentless in his work around the club in his role as Director – Finance and Operations. Coupled with his coaching of the Year 7/8 team with Cam, his overall contribution to our club continued to be immense. The lighting upgrade project that Johnny led was completed, meaning Hataitai Park is one of the more desirable destinations for night rugby in Wellington.

We remain tremendously grateful to the Eastern Suburbs Sports Trust for their financial assistance in the kitchen upgrade. Although this funding was in previous seasons, this asset continues to draw in people and showcase the hospitality that as a club we have become renowned for. Having the kitchen, rather than the bar, as a focal point stands us in good stead for the future. That said, the ongoing relationship with local craft brewer, Waitoa, has been brilliant.

The Pressies opted to revert to more of a support role around the club this season. Led by club secretary Jason Judd, this tight knit team embraced their role in ground management, and, supporting the sponsors.

The WRFU-funded GDO programme has been disbanded. In this role, we had Lapana Makapelu (Jeff) who proved to be an energetic force, backing his ideas with action which resulted in him receiving Administrator of the year. We are delighted to have appointed him as Director of Rugby for the 2024 Season. One of Jeff's strengths is his ability to network and recruit coaches and players.

We are excited to have Samoan International, Fa'atonu Fili, who was selected for two Rugby World Cups and a Commonwealth Games, join our club in the dual role of Premier Head Coach and GDO. As a club, we are funding the GDO programme as this is crucial in servicing the ongoing needs of our community and this is where we will be needing the help of our club supporters.

A special mention to Year 5 player, Winston Wylie who made the NZ Junior Festival tournament team for Under 10s. The Year 5 Team, coached by Scott Lindsay and Stratos Kaldelis had another impactful season which earned them the hotly contested Brilly Cup. Our former juniors continue to make names for themselves in college football, with six current college players earning representative honours (listed later in this report). We continued our work with club of origin, with a highly enjoyable U16 game played against MSP. Working closely together with MSP we settled on two evenly matched U15 teams, with the emphasis on U14 players (Years 9 and 10). Seeing all the boys come together in the changing rooms after the match highlighted the good that rugby does within communities.

The senior teams worked collectively to cover their subs. Honorary subscriptions were down substantially. Heading into 2024, we need to address this and have greater recruitment for our honorary subscriptions. Johnny Curtis and Zane Bennett are putting in substantial effort into cleaning up the club database.

Our position on rugby matters across the region was excellently conveyed by our Delegate, Hamish Girvan. Another source of pride for the club is seeing Alan Muir elevated to the position of WRFU President.

On a personal level, it was awesome to see a young man I had the opportunity to coach for a season in junior rugby back in 2017, Henry Walker, return to the senior club and earn his way into the Premier Team. Off-field, Henry got stuck in, doing dishes and selling raffle tickets and had a loyal support crew following him.

This season was hard work. However, the blade of the Axe is tempered in the fire.

Give 'em the Axe.

Paul





CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

Walker Manaena

Kia Ora Koutou. Ngā mihi ki ōku katoa. Having written one of these reports for some 7-8 years I find it hard to write anything that doesn't begin with a "could have done better" on the field and would have reflected the good work that had gone on club wise.

Field wise the Premier side always held some promise but seem to fall short, so short that we weren't able to stem the losing streak started back in 2021 and 2022. Amazingly, there were some hard-fought results but these were overshadowed by less than acceptable performances that only pointed to not having a true Premier side each week. Fill-ins during the year seem to outnumber the stalwarts and that a few lacked skills in most facets of play, needed to muscle up and tackle and just not make up the numbers needed to get the W. And it seemed that only just before Hardham Cup did we actually put awesome passages of play where tackles and quick movement of the ball saw us to score, when other weeks we would have just rolled over, pick up an injury and hobbled off. Maybe a bit of acceptance that this was our lot, stopped us from gaining momentum that the coaches tried week-in week-out to instill in the squad. Add in new recruits and others who thought the grass was greener next door so what was promised, did not eventuate.

The Reserves had a new lease of life playing in the actual Reserve grade and not P2s. The Managers report on this team talks of starting with 9 or 10 and getting smacked by 50 plus and turning it around and making the finals with 25 plus at each game. Going all the way to the final was a real buzz for "yours truly" in my first and (possibly last) coaching gig for the Amber and Blacks. Well done to Craig and gang.

Congrats to the 85s for again for showing some steel during the season and even getting a televised game in Taranaki for their reward. It must have been hard to field a team, but they hung in there and as the saying goes; hard work brings smiles and even a result!! Haha. Well done chaps.

And as with last year the Colts were a shining light with some outstanding individuals making their debut. If they become real Axemen through playing year-in year-out, it will become our next crop of proven Premier players. Much love to the coaches who kept this team rolling.

Sad that the irrepressible Pressies did not field a team with age and bones possibly letting them down. BUT that the stalwarts still turned out for the club to manage the field for each Prem home game. Many thanks to Juddy, Lionel, Stevie, Neil, Jonty, Peter and others for the extra effort.

We still would love to have Pressies side again (30+ NOT 50 Plus!!) BUT it will need a stalwart to take on the role of hunting and gathering players.

And if we are wondering why they had to manage the field set up it was due to Bruce Moore's Mum being poorly back in the Mighty Hawke's Bay. She is a tough lady and still fighting the good fight, but she still needs Bruce to be there for her.

On the provincial and international scene, we should be well chuffed to see:

- Vaea Fifita playing in the Rugby world Cup, not to mention Llanelli Scarlets. Well done, Vaea.
- Ollie Sapsford playing his 50th match for the mighty Magpies, signing with ACT Brumbies and getting a call up to Australia. It seems it could only a matter of time before he is called up to Australia!
- Angelo Smith with the Western Bulldogs in the Queensland comp must be close to Fiji selection.
- Gareth Simpson now with Saracens the English league after a stint with the Western Force.
- Nafitilai Ma'afu continuing to shine with Biarritz in France.
- Antz Lewis still running around for the Buller team and Isaac Bracewell with Wairarapa Bush.
- Plus, Mael Montagnet back in France as is Harry Healy in England. Of course, Tom Robinson and Joe Reid running a round in the cold and wet of England haha.
- Then Stanley Solomon making the Secondary Schools team as well as the NZ Maori under 20s

Well done lads. Axemen proud!

As always, the Juniors continue to be a shining light. It can't be anything without such a great team of parents and administrators to make it run smoothly AND with great results.

And like every CC report for the past 20 years; the Axemen committee is an awesome crew who work their butts off BUT it needs to be bigger. So don't rubbish decisions, sneak around the back and whisper to others that we are crap on and off the field! Make a difference, do stuff and not sit on your ar*e! Come to a meeting, see what we do and find a niche for yourself.

Come join us, take on a role and help us get stronger. The lessons given and learnt from years by can only help us get better. One that will show that we are as good as we say we are. Bring your expertise NOT your bitterness.

Axemen proud.

Aue e toki kia rite! Give Em the Axe!

Walker.



Image: Brad Roberts Photography.

2023 RESULTS SUMMARY

Team	Competition	Place	Teams	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Against
Premiers	Swindale Shield	14th	14	13	–	–	13	133	824
Premiers	Hardham Cup	4th	4	2	–	–	2	36	107
Colts	Paris Memorial Trophy	4th	11	10	1	–	9	107	307
Colts	John E Kelly & Vic Calcinai Memorial Cups	4th	4	3	1	–	2	52	91
U85s	JC Bowl	9th	12	11	3	–	8	197	569
U85s	Tony O'Brien Shield	4th	5	4	1	–	3	64	126
Reserves	Mike Copeland Cup	11th	15	13	4	–	9	245	475
Reserves	Alan Seerup Cup	2nd	5	4	2	–	2	18	22

2022 RUGBY APPOINTMENTS

TEAM APPOINTMENTS

Premiers:

Head Coach: Esava Tiko

Assistant Coach: Lapana Makapelu

Managers: Richard Preston & Max Sitiveni

Physios: Cape Physio

Colts:

Head Coach: Sio Simo

Assistant Coach: Nigel Solomon

U85s:

Head Coach: Cam Roseingrave

Assistant Coach: Will Cosgriff

Manager: Jimmy Lawler

Reserves:

Co-Coaches: Craig Reid & Walker Manaena

Manager: Peter Burnett & Dave Saunders





WELLINGTON RUGBY UNION DELEGATE REPORT

Hamish Girvan

In writing this year's annual delegates report I reviewed last years report and could have just rinsed and repeated the 2022 report and mailed that in again as not a lot has moved on – however here we go with some of the positives.

One refreshing thing club wise across the region this season was the strength of two so called club minnows in the past in Johnsonville and Paramata Plimmerton, who both finished in the top four of the Swindale Shield. Paramata Plimmerton were the 2023 Swindale Champions and runners up in the Jubilee Cup and Johnsonville made the Jubilee Cup semi finals. Some innovation around how they structured their teams below their Premier team meant they were both all of a sudden competitive. It can be done – and with the proposed upcoming changes to the criteria for a club to field a Prem team (moving away from the early 2000's model finally) there will be room for player bases to grow across clubs and all grades.

Here is something that is a copy and paste from last seasons report though:

It is still being widely discussed by all clubs is the rationale around why the Premier Competition needs to be done and dusted well before the Wellington Lions NPC season starts. This is a very valid argument as there are only a handful of club players who make the Lions squad (which is more or less semi-professional these days) Prem Rugby was completed by July 22nd – (same weekend as in 2022) which is way too early so there is a movement to saying start the season later and finish later. The competition should be for and about the players one would think.

Apparently the Wellington Lions had the most number of Super Rugby players in their team this season so what chances are there for club players to make the main rep team?

There are still some clubs wanting a smaller number of teams in the Prem Comp. This will be continually raised so as a club we need to make sure we are competitive at that level. It's interesting to note that the Premier teams of two of the clubs that made the top four of the Swindale Shield Comp this season did not have the numbers to field a Colts team (see above) but again if it helps the club teams overall then why should there be enforcement of it?

Due to ground availability being at a premium for most of the season due to the FIFA World Cup, Colts rugby was played on Friday nights in many cases. Whilst this in the main suited the Axemen with our high-quality light set up some clubs never got a home game due to not having any lights and some clubs and players were just not keen on the idea. It had a lot pluses and minuses and next season the option will be there if mutually agreed between the two clubs due to play that Saturday (home team of course the initiator). Games versus eastern suburbs clubs e.g. Poneke, Ories, MSP should be able to be facilitated for Friday Night Lights matches in my opinion.

The Premier competition structure is also up for review in 2024 and any changes to the current structure will kick-in in 2025. There will no doubt be some changes with many clubs wanting something different. A top eight, bottom six promotion relegation competition may not be a bad thing.

The financial state of Wellington Rugby is, to be polite, not great. A lot of unforecasted expenditure meant another loss for the most recent financial year so there has been lots of cost cutting which does impact the grass roots game. There has been a lot of managerial changes so lets hope the ship can be righted.

I was again asked to sit on the judiciary for a number of disciplinary cases. The reduction in the number of cases heard this year compared to last season has certainly highlighted the efforts of Wellington Rugby to attempt to stamp out foul play and abuse within the game. There is no excuse for that at any level.

Our club was also seen as being a great place to congregate post game by others and the positive culture was noted. Is being a rugby club more valuable than just Jubilee Cup success each season?

The old quote “there is nothing permanent except change” will apply to the club rugby game so we need to embrace it (which I think the club does better than others) so let's wait and see what evolves.

Onwards to the 2024 season.

Give 'em the Axe!



TEAM REPORTS

PREMIERS

Jason Judd (in lieu of Richard Preston being overseas)

Unfortunately, the Premier Team Manager (Richard Preston) was overseas at the time contributions to the Annual Report were required so in his absence I am writing a brief summary of their year as I saw it having watched a large number of their games.

From a purely results basis we couldn't call the year a successful one, with no wins having been achieved. However, that is not the full story of this team of fine men! The effort, commitment and bravery shown by these blokes on the field never wavered and despite being outgunned on most days by bigger and faster squads, they quite simply never gave up. We just didn't have the firepower to turn effort into points and I don't know how many times we battered away working hard for every inch, only to turn the ball over and see some fast little (insert appropriate word here) sprint off and score.



Will Cosgriff against Poneke.

The team was full of great characters and were superbly led by superman, Will Cosgriff, who pound-for-pound must be one of the toughest players in Wellington. He was ably supported by a number of stalwarts and while I will mention some there are others I will have missed so apologies for that – you know who you are. Blokes like Cam Roseingrave, Joe Reid, Josh Michael, Russell Hughes (a Pressies player last year), Matt Day and Jeff Makepulu turned up week-in and week-out.

A special mention goes to Ben Hendry who racked up his 100th game for the Prens this year. Another man who puts his body on the line week-in and week-out. And to do that every week despite not getting the results your efforts deserve is all the more worthy. Thanks for some awesome service and you are hugely valued.

Off the field the team were fantastic ambassadors for the club and heavily involved across the board. They enjoyed themselves and gave their all – what more can you ask.

Now, we look forward to 2024 and whatever that will bring. A new coaching group for sure and who knows, a change in fortunes.



Ben Hendry, running out for his 100th game.



In the wet against OBU.



UNDER 85s

Jimmy Lawler

The U85s this year will be remembered as a team that showed great perseverance and for sticking at it when things got tough, showed courage for getting back up again and that is also what this club is all about. I would firstly like to thank co-coaches Will and Cam who gave up their Wednesday nights and, when they weren't playing on the Saturday, came to our games. Without you guys putting your hand up it wouldn't be possible to do what we did this year with the amount of time and effort you both had put into it.

The highlights of the season were wins against MSP, Wests and Eastbourne (twice) and our best 20 minutes of the season against Jville, where we came back from a 20 point deficit to nearly win but it wasn't to be. Another highlight was one of our senior players, Feki scoring a try for the first time in six years.

The boys also enjoyed a trip to Yarrow Stadium in New Plymouth to play Tukapa earlier this year in the national knock out competition. The boys played really well and showed the Axemen fighting spirit, but fell just a few points short.

The lads were led tremendously by Zyan, who during some of our really tough days, led from the front and picked the team up superbly.

We are team that – despite some of the big scores against us at times – enjoyed each other's company and enjoyed a beer or two after the game and that is what rugby is all about.



At Yarrow Stadium.



With HOBM.



COLTS

Jason Judd (in lieu of a scribe for the Colts)

Unfortunately we were unable to settle on a scribe for the Colts this year so will have to go off the few games I saw and what I have heard. This was another group who were well coached and performed with pride, however often they came up against bigger and faster teams with greater depth. That didn't deter our guys who gave all they had. They managed to earn a few wins throughout the season and thoroughly enjoyed their time. They were also a great source of support for the club and would often see players playing 80 minutes for the Colts then backing up for the Prens. On more than one occasion they ended up on the field early so almost two games in a row – legends!

With good numbers and enthusiasm aplenty, the signs are good for 2024 when we hope to have all these lads back, and a few more as well. They were a young team and battled above their ages so with this valuable experience behind them, it's onwards and upwards.



Try vs Tawa.





RESERVES

Peter Burnet, Manager

We started the season struggling for numbers. In the first few games starting play with only 13 players and in one instance enlisting the assistance of one of the opposition supporters and the game referee to make up the numbers. We ended the season on a high of making the semi-final with the team narrowly going down 18-22 to the eventual winners of the grade, Tawa.

Memorable moments were: the team's first win after eight losses in a row and the boys being in full voice with 'Give 'em the axe'; A great come from behind win over Petone which is always a sweet moment; Watching the team create opportunities; Wille Amasasa who dotted down 10 times to take out top senior try scorer; Peti Paulo doing the hard yards in the forwards; but most of all watching the team grow into a competitive unit.

A big thanks to hard work of Craig Reid and Walker Manaena who never gave up on the team, and to Niko Tui who worked hard at recruiting more players, which put us in a position of having a starting 15 and reserves.

This was a team that played for each other, and they all contributed to the turning round of the fortunes of the team. With a record of played 16, lost 10, won 6, resulting in the team taking out Senior Team of the Year.

Even with the shaky start this was an enjoyable season so thanks brothers/Uso's, we have laid a strong foundation to build upon for next season.





PRESSIES

Juddy

For the first time in who knows how long, we were unable to field a Pressies team this year. We simply didn't have enough players to get on the field and would have seen a number of defaults that muck other teams around. So, we made the reluctant call to mothball the team and wait for a new, younger group (say, some in their 30s) to emerge and take up the baton.

The lads weren't lost to the club however, with a couple (Sean and Russell) turning out for the Reserves and the Prems respectively while the rest of us would attend games, help out with scoreboards, set up and take down the flags/ropes/camera/reserves area and generally help out where we could. We also continued to enjoy a beer or two after the games, although to be fair they never taste as good as the ones we used to have after our own game!

Not having a team didn't mean we couldn't have team trips – our usual 'mens retreat' in Waitarere in Feb set the scene for the year and an almost a full complement of 13 went to New Plymouth for our end of season trip. As with previous years it was an outstanding success – no-one got hurt, no-one got arrested and no relationships were harmed!

So, we are in abeyance and hopeful that the younger brigade can take over and we have all the words of wisdom needed to get them underway. In the meantime, we will do next year what we did this year and keep on enjoying the mateship generated over many seasons.



AXEMEN INTER-CLUB TROPHYS

CLUB	TROPHY	2021	2022	2023
	Grade:	Swindale Shield	Swindale Shield	Swindale Shield
Johnsonville	Mick Kenny Memorial Cup	Date: 29 May Played: Home Result: Won 27-17	Date: 2 April Played: Away Result: Won 15-28	Date: 20 May Played: Home Result: Lost 22-52
OBU	Dean Gifford Memorial Cup	Date: 1 May Played: Home Result: Lost 3-66	Date: 11 June Played: Away Result: Lost 0-74	Date: 27 June Played: Home Result: Lost 0-49
Oriental-Rongotai	Alby Jack Memorial Trophy	Date: 5 June Played: Away Result: Lost 22-45	Date: 9 July Played: Away Result: Lost 11-65	Date: 1 April Played: Away Result: Lost 15-72
Poneke	Spud Lindsay Shield	Date: 10 April Played: Away Result: Lost 5-68	Date: 9 April Played: Home Result: Lost 12-36	Date: 24 June Played: Away Result: Lost 29-60
Tawa	Alan and Murray Mexted Cup	Date: 15 May Played: Home Result: Lost 12-26	Date: 21 May Played: Away Result: Lost 10-64	Date: 17 June Played: Home Result: Lost 7-77
Wainuiomata	Bill Jones Cup	Date: 17 April Played: Home Result: Lost 14-16	Date: 16 April Played: Away Result: Lost 10-36	Date: 6 April Played: Home Result: Lost 16-31
Petone	Air New Zealand Trophy <i>(played for by all teams)</i>	Date: 24 April Prests: Lost 12-60 Reserves: Lost 23-28 Colts: No game	Date: 30 April Prests: Lost 19-71 Colts: Lost 7-33	Date: 3 June Prests: Lost 5-70 Colts: Lost 5-29 Reserves: Lost 0-34
Poneke	Misiluni Moananu Memorial Shield <i>(Colts Grade)</i>	Not played	Date: 2 July Played: Away Result: Won 62-22	Date: 26 May Played: Home Result: Lost 0-26
Oriental-Rongotai	Rob Goulden Axe <i>(Presidents Grade)</i>	Date: August Result: Won (by default)	Date: August Result: Won (by default)	Not played
Poneke	Soma Leota Memorial Cup <i>(Reserves Grade)</i>	Not played	Not played	Date: 24 June Played: Home Result: Lost 14-24
Paremata-Plimmerton (2)	Daniel Baldwin Memorial Cup	Not played	Date: 14 May Played: Home Result: Lost 14-15	Date: 10 June Played: Home Result: Lost 5-34
Upper Hutt	Jim Mei/George Hinaki Axe	Not played	Date: 25 June Played: Home Result: Lost 5-48	Date: 15 April Played: Away Result: Lost 10-76



The Hinaki Mei Axe.

NB:

1. Clubs with no trophies – Marist St Pats; Wests; Norths; HOBM; Avalon; Stokes Valley; Eastbourne

CLUB & TEAM AWARDS

CLUB AWARDS

Administrator of the Year	Lapana Makapelu
Axeman of the Year	Cameron Roseingrave
Coach of the Year	Craig Reid and Walker Manaena
Senior Team of the Year	Senior Reserves
JH Fowler Esq – Club Team of Year	Senior Reserves
One Club Ambassadors Cup	Johnny Curtis
321s / Best & Fairest	Willia Afamasaga
Player of the Year	Samuela Fuimaono

TEAM AWARDS

	Premiers	Colts	Under 85s	Reserves
Most Improved	Sam Edlund	Alex Schofield	Finn Jeffrey	Justin Bartley
Best Back	Will Cosgriff	Henry Walker	Nick Wilson	Pulega Toavalu
Best Forward	Samuela Kuruisiga	Mael Montagnat	Cody Milne	Peti Paulo
MVP	Jack Laurenson	Samuela Fuimaono	Zyan Gonnewardene	Tominiko Tui

PLAYER REP HONOURS

Harry Healy	Wellington Centurion U18s
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COLLEGE PLAYER REP HONOURS

Riley Bracewell (<i>St Pats Town 1st XV</i>)	Wellington U18 Māori
Ollie Church (<i>WC 1st XV</i>)	Wellington U18 Māori
Charlie Barton (<i>Scots 1st XV</i>)	Wellington Centurion U18s
Charlie Roy (<i>Mount Aspiring College 1st XV</i>)	Otago Country U16
Connor Maxwell (<i>St Pats Town 2nd XV</i>)	Wellington U16 Development
Joe Barry (<i>WC U15A</i>)	Wellington U16 Development

CLUB HONOURS



Paul Bracewell with Walker receiving his award.

Life Membership Award, Walker Manaena

Chairman Paul Bracewell had the pleasure of awarding Walker his Life Membership following many, many years of service at last years AGM. And might I say, service that is still ongoing!

Walker is Kahu Ngu Nu and joined the club in 1975 after coming down from the Hawkes Bay. His earliest coaches were Alan Muir and Mattie Blackburn. He then joined the Junior 1's from '77 to '79 when he stuffed his knee. Walker went back to the Bay in 1992 and was following the club remotely. He returned to Wellington in 2005.

In 2011 Mattie volunteered him to the committee, he was Assistant Club Captain for two years and has been the Club Captain ever since!

In addition to that Walker was the Premier Manager from 2018-2022 and in 2023 co-coached the Reserve team with Craig Reid. He has done a huge amount behind the scenes, in the changing rooms, in the kitchen, on the training field, at committee meetings, over the phone or basically anywhere to help out a club member.

It has been quite a feat and the award was richly deserved.



Jason Judd with Paul receiving his award.

Distinguished Service Caps, Paul & Sarah Bracewell

At last years AGM, two Distinguished Service Caps were awarded that were richly deserved – Paul and Sarah Bracewell. Unfortunately one half of this dynamic duo couldn't be there, Sarah, so hers was presented on Old Timers Day this year.

The cap and concept was designed by Bill Brien to recognise outstanding service and while the criteria is not prescriptive, we know what it looks like when we see it.

Paul and Sarah are an awesome team both inside and outside of the club – they have been contributing in many ways for many years. Having initially been involved with the Junior Club, more latterly they have added the Senior Club to their list of “things to help with”. In recent times they have been synonymous with pretty much anything happening in the club, including but not limited to events, kitchen, fundraising, working bees training, club administration and basically just helping where they can,

So, this award is richly deserved and congratulations to both.



Sarah at work – helping with things.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

REP HONOURS INCLUDING OLD BOYS/GIRLS	
Vaea Fifita	Playing in the Rugby World Cup with Tonga, not to mention Llanelli Scarlets. Well done, Vaea.
Ollie Sapsford	Playing his 50th match for the mighty Magpies, signing with ACT Brumbies and getting a call up to Australia A. It seems it could only a matter of time before he is called up to Australia!
Angelo Smith	With the Western Bulldogs in the Queensland comp, who must now be close to Fiji selection.
Gareth Simpson	Now with Saracens the English league after a stint with the Western Force.
Nafitilai Ma'afu	Continuing to shine with Biarritz in France. Also in the US Eagles wider squad.
Ants Ellis	Still running around for the Buller team.
Isaac Bracewell	With Wairarapa Bush.
Stanley Solomon	Making the NZ Secondary Schools team as well as the NZ Maori under 20s.
Milly Mackie	Wgtn Pride and Hurricanes Poa.
Mael Montagnet	Back in France.
Harry Healy, Tom Robinson & Joe Reid	Running around in the cold and wet of England.
Hera Maihi	Ex WFC Junior. Playing for Manawatu under 18s and Manawatu women's open touch teams.



Hera Maihi. Image: Warren Chapman Photography.





JUNIOR CLUB REPORT

Junior Convenor
Stuart McKenzie

The 2023 Junior season was the first year for a while that we were able to plan without the implications of a virus hanging over our heads. Numbers again trended down for our club but that appeared to be the same across many clubs in the Wellington area. It was surprising to see some of the larger clubs with only one or two teams in each grade.

The real highlight was seeing the Year 2 team move into the year 3 tackle grade this year. They are a team of kids who joined the club together and enjoy turning out in the Black and Gold every week. Thanks must go to Mike and Liz who did a fantastic job of coaching the team and inspiring them to improve every week.

The Year 3 Weta team is an example of the hard work we've been doing to bring some of our more junior players through the grades and keep them interested in playing tackle rugby. Thanks go to Richard Hickman who has the organising skills of a Sergeant Major and has done well to get the kids to games and practices.

Our Year 0/1 Taniwha and Year 2 Tuatara had great numbers most weeks and were well supported by the parents/guardians. The smiles from the kids and cheering by the parents were the consistent every week.

No Nga Taniwha team this year but we will look to get the team established for the 2024 year. They are a great addition to the club, and we are looking forward to forming another team.

The Year 5 Axemen performed exceptionally well again this year. Another team that has come up through the grades and put great combinations together every week. Scott and Stratos are very passionate coaches, and the players really respond to their leadership. Watch out for this team in the Black and Gold in up coming seasons, they are going to achieve great things.

A few of our Year 7/8 team from last year moved on to college so we were left a few players short this year to form our own team. Reaching out to Poneke, we were able to get a combined team together who played in the +59kg grade. Thanks to the Poneke Football Club who accommodated our players. Thanks also to Pak n Save Kilbirnie who sponsored the team and provided them with Gold, Red and Black jerseys which distinguished them as the Barbarians. With player numbers reducing across clubs, we may well see more Barbarian teams in the future.



A shout out to Glen ‘Hoggy’ Hogg who left Wellington to settle in Australia at the beginning of the year. Hoggy has been a stalwart at the junior club and coached/supported and managed many teams over the years. Good luck to you and your family over in Oz. Congratulations to all the end of year prize winners, but especially to Sadie Scott who won the Milly Mackey trophy and to Kade Townsend who took home the Convenor’s Club Player of the Year.

A huge thanks to all the coaches, managers, supporters, parents who turn out weekly to support all our teams. The Wellington Football Club is in a great position to build on the year we have had and grow our junior club.

Give ‘em the Axe!

JUNIOR CLUB AWARDS

TEAM AWARDS			
	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7/8
MVP of the Year	Henry Lorimer	Winnie Wylie	Maia Hollis
Most Improved Player	Iggy Latty	MJ	Jude Fifield

CLUB AWARDS	
Gray Family U8/U9 Tackle Impact Award	Ethan Collins
U10/U11 Tomahawk Impact Player of the Year	Theo Barry
Kyahn Stoney Junior Back of the Year	Luca Hiotakis
George Kerr Memorial Trophy – most tenacious forward	Tom Beeby
Milly Mackey Cup	Sadie Scott
Zion Stoney Cup Coach of the Year	Cameron Roseingrave, Johnny Curtis & Michael Hollis
Wildfish X Factor Award	Theo Pithie
Solomon Patu	Kade Townsend
Convenor’s Club Player of the Year	Kade Townsend
Axemen Cup – true grit and determination	Year 3 team
Brilly Cup – most successful Junior Team	Year 5 team

OBITUARIES 2022/2023

Provided by Peter Jack, QSM, our Club Historian

Kevin Mathew (Boggie) Boggs Kevin was a lower grade player for the Club from 1969 to 1971. He made his name for this club in the coaching section as Assistant Coach to our Senior 3rd side in 1983 that finished second in the grade and later in the same position to our Under 19 side, under coach Michael Knight which finished third for the WRFU Calcinaï Cup. He passed away on the 3rd July in Wellington, aged 82.

Lloyd Hollis (Holly) Jones A true Axeman and legend of this club. Holly was a Chairman, President, Vice President, Distinguished Service Cap holder, player from 1967 to 1974 and coach of the successful Hollies Heroes Police Junior 2nd side. He did this coaching while playing in the Senior A side. A member of that side that in 1972 won the Jubilee Cup and Swindale Shield. Holly was a Wellington Senior A rep in 1972 and 1973 and a NZ Police Rep. He ended up as a retired Detective Inspector. Holly will be remembered as President (2008-10) of recruiting while on holiday in South Africa and getting over six players to play in our top side. Since then he had fought a long battle with cancer. He died on 26th September in Melbourne, age 78. Loved father-in-law of Mathew, Kylie, Kathryn, Shaun, Bradley, Lisa, and Pop to all his grandchildren. He will be missed by all of us.

In accordance with his wishes a private interment has taken place. However a special service will be held here in Paremata on, or close to, February 10th next year.

May they Rest in Peace.

DONATIONS

We are aware some subscriptions were paid over the bar during the season and while this is deposited direct to the clubs account, we are aware some names weren't correctly recorded. If your name hasn't appeared please let Johnny Curtis know (number below) and this will be remedied.

Jarrold Reardon
Nicholas Bennetto
Murray Pierce
Tom Bracefield
B G Moon
G Horsely
Taylor Family
Ross Graham

HONORARY MEMBERS

Ken Norris
Harper Bockett-Smith
Edward Mei
Murray Pierce
Tom Bracefield
Nigel Stirling
Don Reynolds
Jack Moir
Ross Graham
Danii Mintrom
Ian Cragg
Jason Judd
Neil Jackson
Lionel Lee

SPONSORS

Provided by Johnny Curtis

Whole of Club Sponsors

Waitoa Social Club
Colliers Valuations
Footmarx

Team Sponsors

Premis : Rendercon
Colts: BCITO
85s : Sugarwoods
Year 7/8 Baa baas: Pak N Save Kilbirnie
Junior Club: Pulse Building Solution

Trusts

NZCT
4 Winds
TAB
Grass Roots
Air Rescue
Easten Suburbs Sporting Trust

Other Supporters

JPB Painting
Mac Access
Joes Garage
Bayleys
Hughes Robertson
Treadwells
Wellington City Plumbing
Bachler Deck
Bunkhouse Graphic Design

If you are keen to sponsor the club please get in contact with Johnny Curtis on 021 386285.



Craig, Nigel, Walker and Paul.



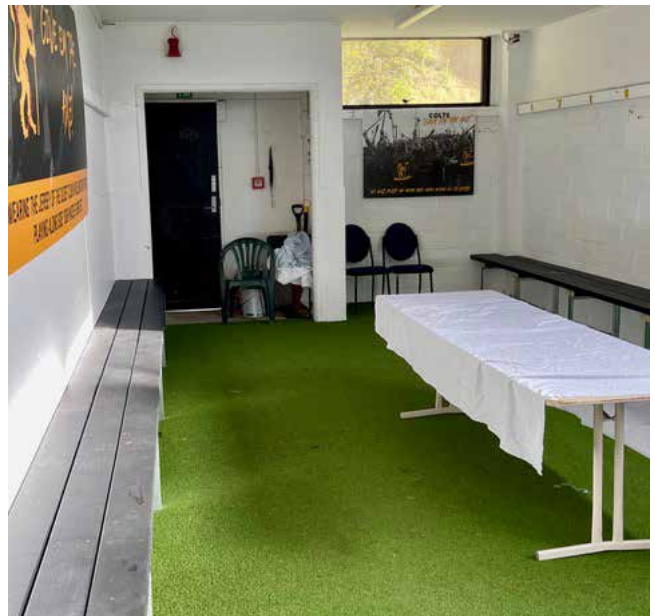
Legends.



???



Johnny Curtis on the bar.





FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

WELLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB INC

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Introduction to the financial accounts

The Wellington Football Club's financial situation for the 2022-2023 accounts presents several challenges.

Financial Highlights:

Total Trading Income in 2023: \$271,094.81

Gross Profit in 2023: \$230,658.12

Net Profit in 2023: \$29,251.47

The net profit for 2023 was \$29,251.47. This is a significant decrease from the previous year (2022) when the net profit was \$83,683.41.

Comparison to Previous Years:

The club experienced a decrease in both revenue and profit in 2023 compared to 2022. The cost of sales remained relatively stable, with a slight decrease.

Operating expenses increased in 2023, affecting the net profit.

Notable factors affecting the club's financial health include a decrease in honorary membership numbers, a significant drop in bar income, grant funding harder to get and reduced sponsorship.

The decrease in honorary membership numbers can be attributed to a lack of active pursuit, which is essential because it's a legal requirement for individuals to be honorary members in order to drink at the club. The club needs to improve its database management to ensure that past members' and players' contact details are maintained correctly and are chased for honorary subs. The goal for 2023-2024 is to have 50% of these past members paying for Honorary membership (\$59) and 100% of people drinking at the club a paid member.

Bar income has declined by 50% compared to the previous years. Several factors could be contributing to this, such as the current cost of living crisis, the lack of a win from the premis, and a challenging schedule with six away games at the start of the season. The club requires support even when the team is not performing well on the field.

Sponsorship has also decreased by more than 50% compared to previous years, making it a critical area that needs attention.

Lack of volunteers to manage these factors is a significant issue, as the club's operational expenses (OPEX) continue to rise due to increasing costs of insurance, power, water, and food. Additionally, player requirements and maintenance of the club's facilities contribute to the financial strain.

The club received \$20,000 from the NZRFU as part of the Silverlake fund, allocated according to player and club membership numbers (another reason to get Honorary members numbers up for the next possible round). A portion of this fund has been used to purchase new gym equipment \$3k, while the rest is held in a separate account. The board is still deliberating on how to allocate the remaining funds, leaning towards capital projects rather than on-field operational costs.

The club is facing a challenge in maintaining its commitment to providing free facilities for various community organisations (Wellington College, St Pats College, Nelson College, St Marys School first XV, Sense Rugby, NZRFU, WRFU, Wellington Softball, Kilbirmie School, Maranui Surf Club, Wellington Fijian association) which we see as an important part of the club being part of the community, with the added strain of the running costs associated.

The board will need to make tough decisions on how to balance the financial needs of the club, both on and off the field, considering the four critical areas of honorary membership, bar income, grant funding and sponsorship. These decisions will help determine the club's financial viability in the future.



Contents

	Page
Non- Financial Information	
Entity Information	2
Statement of Service Performance	3
Financial Information	
Statement of Financial Performance	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Cashflows	6
Statement of Accounting Policies	7
Notes to the Performance Report	8 - 10

**Wellington Rugby Football Club
Entity Information
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**



"Who are we?", "Why do we exist?"

Legal name of Entity:	Wellington Football Club Inc
Type of Entity and legal basis:	Incorporated Society and Registered Charity
Registration Number:	215307

Entity's purpose or mission:

The objects of the association are:

- * a) to provide members facilities and the organisation for the playing of the Rugby Union Football
- * b) to provide members with clubrooms, clubhouse and gymnastics
- * c) to promote and foster such other indoor and outdoor sports and social activities as may be desired in the interests of the club
- * d) to hold, purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise take on lease any property real or personal in the name of the club shall we deemed expedient for the purposes of the club and to sell, mortgage, pledge lease, hire and grant any option power such priority or elsewhere with power to alter or pull down buildings and rebuild the same,
- * e) to use the funds of the club for and to do all such things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

Entity's structure:

The Association shall be administered and managed by the Committee made up of 7 elected Officers .

Main sources of the Entity's cash and resources:

The main source of cash and resources is the subscriptions paid from football players, and grants.

Main methods used by the Entity to raise funds:

Subscriptions from players.

From time to time a fundraising event may be held to raise additional funds (usually for a specific project).

Entity's reliance on volunteers and donated goods or services:

Reliance on members to volunteer time to serve on Committee.

Contact Details

Physical Address:	Wellington Football Club Rooms 37 Ruahine Street, Wellington
Postal Address:	PO Box 2624, Wellington
Phone / Facsimile:	021 396 285
Email/Website/Social Media:	Email: info@wfc.org.nz Website: https://www.wellingtonfootballclub.org.nz/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WellingtonAxemen

**Wellington Rugby Football Club
Statement of Service Performance
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**



"What did we do?", "When did we do it?"

Description of the Entity's Outcomes:

- * More registered players across the senior grades.
- * Improved the infrastructure by installation of lights for players to long duration of training.
- * Increase in Grant funding to pay extra contractors for Youth Development Officer
- * Rental income increased during 2021 due to extended term rent of the kitchen that was upgraded in 2021.
- * Increased rental of downstairs gym area due to new lease agreement in place with the operator

Description and quantification (to the extent practicable) of the Entity's Outputs:

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Players Gear and Expenses	\$42,232	\$63,246
Club Functions	\$2,970	\$2,775
Game Development Costs (including Coaching Coordinato and coaching)	\$80,899	\$43,600
	<u>\$126,101</u>	<u>\$109,621</u>

**Wellington Rugby Football Club
Statement of Financial Performance
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**



"How was it funded?", "What did it cost?"

	Note	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Revenue:			
Fees, subscriptions and other revenues from members	1	\$6,634	\$10,832
Revenue from Grants, Sponsorships and Fundraising	1	\$192,112	\$230,916
Revenue from providing goods and services	1	\$36,668	\$52,129
Interest Received	1	\$984	\$30
Other Revenue	1	\$1,304	\$6,010
		<u>\$237,703</u>	<u>\$299,917</u>
Expenses:			
Administration Expenses	2	\$39,086	\$40,471
Costs related to providing goods or services	2	\$168,332	\$158,839
Expenses related to Fundraising	2	\$2,970	\$2,775
		<u>\$210,388</u>	<u>\$202,085</u>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		<u>\$27,315</u>	<u>\$97,831</u>

Wellington Rugby Football Club
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 August 2023



"What the entity owns?", "What the entity owes?"

	Note	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Assets			
Current assets			
Bank accounts and cash	3	\$72,559	\$76,228
Debtors and prepayments	3	\$12,245	\$17,724
Inventory (including player jackets)		\$1,311	\$798
Current Assets		\$86,115	\$94,750
Fixed Assets	4	\$534,949	\$502,800
TOTAL ASSETS		\$621,064	\$597,550
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		\$525	\$(8,945)
GST Payable		\$(1,555)	\$2,802
Legacy Project Funding		\$17,005	\$21,608
Grant Income Received in Advance		\$(0)	\$29,250
Total Liabilities		\$15,975	\$44,715
Loans to Members			\$11,000
Total assets less total liabilities (net assets)		\$605,089	\$541,835
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	5	\$557,774	\$447,479
Surplus/Deficit for Year	5	\$27,315	\$97,831
Honors Board	5		\$425
Drawings	5		\$3,900
Silver Lake Funding	6	\$20,000	
Total accumulated funds		\$605,089	\$541,835

President

Treasurer

**Wellington Rugby Football Club
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**



"How the entity received and used cash"

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash was received from:		
Receipts from customers	291,331.00	\$357,554
Payments to suppliers and employees	(280,335.00)	\$(279,470)
Cash receipts from other operating activities	16,561.00	\$4,499
	<u>\$27,557</u>	<u>\$82,582</u>
Cash flows from investing		
Cash was received from:		
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment	\$28,619	\$32,913
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(61,195.00)	\$(79,951)
Other cash items from investing activities	(562.13)	\$(1,022)
	<u>\$(33,138)</u>	<u>\$(48,061)</u>
Cash Flow from Financing		
Other cash items from financing activities	2,844	(32,096)
	<u>\$2,844</u>	<u>\$(32,096)</u>
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	<u>\$(2,737)</u>	<u>\$2,425</u>
Opening cash	\$75,678	\$73,252
Net change for period	\$(2,737)	\$2,425
Closing cash	<u>\$72,941</u>	<u>\$75,678</u>



"How did we do our accounting?"

Basis of Preparation

WFC Inc has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not for profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the performance report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The performance report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

WFC Association Inc is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

WFC Inc is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash are in the Statement of Cashflows comprising cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Interest Receivable

Interest receivable is stated at estimated realisable value.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at cost.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year (last year - nil).



"Further explanation of the numbers"

Note 1.

Analysis of Revenue

Revenue Item	Actual 2023	Actual 2023
Fees, subscriptions and other revenues from members		
Subscriptions Active	\$4,277	\$4,469
Subscriptions Honorary	\$574	\$3,126
Subscriptions - Junior Club	\$1,783	\$3,237
	<u>\$6,634</u>	<u>\$10,832</u>
Revenue from Grants, Sponsorships and Fundraising		
Fundraising and Events	\$1,065	\$1,109
Sponsorship	\$21,783	\$41,253
Grants	\$100,322	\$139,750
Grants recognised in Fy23, received in prior years	\$36,719	
WRFU CCO Funding	\$30,000	\$40,000
Donations	\$2,223	\$8,805
	<u>\$192,112</u>	<u>\$230,916</u>
Revenue from providing goods and services		
Premises Rental	\$26,011	\$23,982
Isherwood Lounge (profit)	\$9,421	\$27,265
Merchandise (Profit)	\$1,236	\$882
	<u>\$36,668</u>	<u>\$52,129</u>
Other Revenue		
Insurance Proceeds and Other	\$1,304	\$6,010
Interest Received		
Interest	\$984	\$30



"Further explanation of the numbers"

Note 2.	Analysis of Expenses		
	Expense Item	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
	Administration Expenses		
	Advertising	\$5,609	\$5,466
	Bank and Card Fees	\$1,605	\$1,883
	Sundry printing and stationary	\$57	\$209
	Depreciation	\$28,619	\$32,913
	General	\$3,196	
		\$39,086	\$40,471
	Expenses Related To Fundraising		
	Club Functions	\$2,970	\$2,775
	Costs related to providing goods or services		
	Cleaning & rubbish removal, laundry	\$10,151	\$6,709
	Licences and Fees	\$3,226	\$5,627
	Water, Rates and Electricity, warer cooler	\$10,765	\$8,627
	Insurance	\$5,764	\$8,072
	Repairs and Maintenance	\$10,830	\$17,137
	Telephone and Tolls (+ General)	\$919	\$821
	Affiliation Fees	\$2,832	\$4,050
	CCO Costs and head Coach	\$53,284	\$33,600
	Coaching and Player Courses	\$27,615	\$10,000
	Players Expense and Gear	\$42,232	\$64,681
	Training Ground Expenses	\$714	\$(485)
		\$168,332	\$158,839
Note 3.	Analysis of Assets and Liabilities		
	Balance Sheet Item	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
	Bank accounts and cash		
	Westpac Bar Account	\$123	\$2,355
	Westpac Club Subs	\$17,634	\$279
	Westpac Bank Account	\$53,953	\$73,094
	Float	\$850	\$500
		\$72,559	\$73,594



"Further explanation of the numbers"

Note 4. Fixed Assets

	Cost	Additions	Accum Depn	2022 BV	2023
Building	349,377.00			349,377.00	349,377.00
Leasehold Alterations	198,218.88		151,657.15	55,800.02	46,561.73
Plant, Equipment	187,801.60	60,313.00	109,105.00	97,622.02	139,009.60
	734,942.48	60,313.00	232,143.44	502,799.04	534,948.33

Note 5. Accumulated Funds

2023					
	Capital Contributed by Members		Accumulated Surpluses or Deficits	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	-		\$543,175	-	\$543,175
Surplus / (Deficit)	-		\$27,315	-	\$27,315
Honours Board	-		\$425	-	\$425
Cash Transfers to / (from) reserves				-	-
Write back of Loans			\$11,000		
Closing Balance	-		\$581,915	-	error

2022					
	Capital Contributed by Members		Accumulated Surpluses or Deficits	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	-		\$448,819	-	\$448,819
Surplus / (Deficit)	-		\$97,831	-	\$97,831
Honours Board	-		\$425	-	\$425
Reconciling Item			\$(2,600)		
Transfers to / (from) reserves			\$(3,900)	-	\$(3,900)
Closing Balance	-		\$540,575	-	\$543,175

Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

There are no commitments as at balance date (last year - nil).

Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees

The Association has no known contingent liabilities or guarantees as at balance date (last year - nil).

Note 6. Related Party Transactions

The following reimbursements are for expenses incurred as a result of licences, bar purchases, fundraising events or asset purchases

	Amounts received during period	Amount Paid During Year	Amounts Outstanding
S and P Bracewell - Board Members	931		-
J Curtis - Board Member		\$196	-
Z Bennett		85	



WELLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB (INC)

— Founded 1870 —

New Zealand's Oldest Playing Through Rugby Club

GIVE 'EM THE AXE!