



President's Report 2022

The world seems to be slowly returning to some kind of normal and with that basketball, or at least Bullits, continues to grow. Spring Season 2021 was started but unfortunately we went back into lockdown on July 9th and did not come out of that lockdown until October 21st. The Junior teams that had enough players that wanted to play and were vaccinated, were able to play out the last 6 games of the year. No finals were played. Senior teams were able to play out an extended season of the 6 games and then six months of 2022.

We were able to offer pro-rata refunds to all players who played out the 6-game season in 2021, and then carry credits over into 2022 if players were not able to have played in 2021. I am very proud that we were able to offer refunds and credits accordingly. Many, many sports in Melbourne took registration fees from their members and when the season was interrupted, or at times, unable to even get started, people were not offered any compensation whatsoever. It was a mammoth task behind the scenes organising the refunds and credits, and I thank Kerry Thomson (our wonderful Treasurer) for all of her hard work and dedication to ensure that all players received their correct refunds/credits.

There were vaccination mandates to consider, mask mandates and also limited spectators, but we got through and managed to play out a complete Autumn Season 2022. Granted there were a larger number of forfeits than usual- it seemed that someone from everyone's family either had Covid or had to isolate because someone in their family had Covid. Things were a lot more manageable once people were not required to isolate unless they were suffering from Covid.

Bullits had 107 teams (823 members) in the Spring 2021 Season, 115 teams (881 members) in Autumn 2022, and we have a record 125 teams (987 members!!) in our current Spring 2022 Season. We had many teams get through to the semi finals for Autumn 2022 and 25 teams made it through to the Grand Finals. We had a record 15 teams win their Grand Finals and it was a great Grand Final Weekend! The stadium looked great and there were plenty of Bullits decorations around the courts. A big thank you to Michelle Ferguson, Peta Dyke and Louise Khanbashi for decorating the stadium at 6.30am on Grand Final day.

Our record number of teams has kept of our wonderful Committee Members: Sandy Celantano (Vice President and U8, U9 & U16 Boys Age Coordinator), Kerry Thomson (Treasurer), Sophia Ali (Secretary and U18 Boys Coordinator), our General Members: Peta Dyke (U14 Boys Age Coordinator), Rachel Visser and April Whitaker (Uniform Coordinator) very busy. As well as our Age Coordinators: Vanessa Fox (U8, U9 & U10 Girls), Mel Harrison (U14 Girls), Kate Parker (U16 Girls), Catherine Farr (U12 Boys), Melissa Forde (U18, U20 & U23 Girls) have had to work super hard behind the scenes organising teams and adding them into the not so user-friendly system that is Playhq.

A big thank you to all of our wonderful Committee Members, Uniform Coordinator, and Age Coordinators for all of their hard work behind the scenes, helping out at Uniform Days, attending Committee Meetings, creating teams, and updating all relevant information in Playhq, including adding singlet numbers every season because the system is unable to transfer them across from season to season. A big shout out to Kerry Thomson who is always there to help with any issues that come up. Your help is really appreciated, Kerry, and your hard work does not go unnoticed!!

Our Uniform sales continue to go through the roof! Every uniform day we think that everyone must have a correct fitting uniform by now and we think we have over-ordered, only to run out of some sizes or get very close to running out. A big thank you to April Whitaker for looking after uniform orders. Most players have reversible uniforms by now and hoodies are still very popular. We have introduced Bullits Polo tops this season and have offered Coaches a subsidised cost of \$20 for their polos. At the time of writing this report we are waiting for our first delivery of polo tops to arrive after experiencing Covid delays.

To help cover the costs of our ever growing club and our need for coaches, we introduced a Junior Coach Levy in Spring 2021 where teams with Junior coaches were invoiced an additional \$150 to cover the cost of the \$250 Junior Coach payment at the end of the season. This seems to have been accepted across all teams without causing too many issues. We continue to offer our Parent Coaches a \$100 discount on fees and with the introduction of the Junior Coach Levy, the club subsidises \$100 of the \$250 Coach payment to our Junior Coaches.

Thank you to our Trainers who continue to attend all training sessions at Sandringham College and Sandringham East Primary School. Nathan Harbutt, our Head Trainer, continues to organise the Trainer shifts and coordinate timesheets for payment. Thanks to Nathan, Evan McConkey, Aras Harbutt, Cassie Whitaker, Lachlan Celantano, Ben Celantano, and our newest Trainer, Sam Neilsen, for all of their hard work throughout the year. It got a bit tough for a while there when Covid and sickness hit multiple Trainers at the same time, but we got through.

The job of managing all Team Manager and Coach qualifications as well as the requirements of the SBA became too big for a volunteer so in Autumn 2022 the Committee approved the introduction of a paid position within the club- Compliance Officer. Kerry Thomson is doing an outstanding job and at the time of writing this report, Bullets had 70 % compliance which is well up from our attempts in previous seasons. Many non-compliant TMs and Coaches are only missing one requirement and will be fully compliant shortly.

The much anticipated building of four new courts at Tulip Street has begun. The build is expected to be at the lock up stage in December this year and the keys handed over in March 2023. The four courts will be a welcome addition to the existing four courts at Tulip Street. Each of the clubs at the SBA are contributing some funds to help cover the costs of the build. It really will be great when these courts are finished and we have 8 courts for games at Tulip Street.

It's been great to get a whole season under our belts after so many lockdowns and start ups over the last 2 years. And it's once again been a privilege to be a part of such a wonderful club.

Lisa Mouncer

Bullits President

