



President's Report 2019

It has been another extremely busy year for the Beaumaris Basketball Club, with our club continuing to grow. This Summer 2019/20 Season we take the mantle as the largest domestic club in the competition at 106 registered teams representing over 800 players. Winter Season 2019 saw 32 of our teams make grand final weekend, coming home with 16 titles across most age groups. This was also the strongest result amongst the domestic clubs and is a testament to the hard work of our large band of volunteer coaches and team managers and of course the passion and enthusiasm amongst our players!

As you can imagine, organizing over 800 players each season is a massive job, presenting lots of different challenges for our band of volunteers. Season to season organization includes taking queries from new players, organizing and registering the 100+ teams with the Southern Basketball Association (SBA), ordering uniform stock, planning and manning uniform sales, organizing and allocating training venues, dealing with team grading and other issues and communicating with teams. These core activities remained the focus of the club throughout the year. Whilst we don't always get things right, we maintain an ethos of continuous improvement and committee meetings often involve discussion about 'how can we do things better?'. We continue to work on our systems and processes in order to effectively and efficiently manage operations.

We have been fortunate to retain the services of Brandon Polk as our Director of Coaching and Player Development during 2019. Brandon has a special skill of being able to translate his knowledge and experience of basketball to engage and guide our next generation of basketballers and support our volunteer coaches. During 2019 Brandon has conducted 140 sessions with teams including some guard and 'tall player' sessions for those interested in honing their skills in various aspects of the game. A big thanks must go to Brandon for his efforts during the year.

The Club organized 2 Family Days and a trivia night during the year. This is the first time for a long time we have organized Club events and they were a great success. Family Days included clinics with Brandon at Beaumaris Secondary College which were very well attended, particularly by our keen 8-12 year olds. We will continue to

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offer these important events over 2020 and hope to see a continued strengthening of Sharks' spirit.

Sharks' spirit was also shown by the small group of dedicated committee members who took time out of their week to score finals games for Sharks teams at the end of each season. During Winter finals this amounted to over 80 games. This can be a tough gig, particularly in close games where emotions are running high. Having someone who knows what they are doing on the clock is a godsend!

The Club manages training venues for our 100+ teams at Mentone Girls' Secondary, Cheltenham Secondary and Beaumaris Secondary College and Black Rock Primary School. It is a difficult job and we wish to thank each of these venues for the opportunity to train on prime time, indoor court space of which there is a significant shortage in the local area.

The Sharks continue to monitor our cashflow and finances carefully, breaking even in the current reporting period in addition to holding a healthy cash surplus (refer Treasurer Report). Fees were increased this year, the first time in over 4 years, due primarily to the increase in Association scoresheet fees passed on to our members. We have worked at keeping uniform prices down with small margins. Any profit made from uniform sales are reinvested back into the club, paying for training venue hire, coaching services and helping to manage the increasing administrative workload.

The Committee has invested a significant amount of time and effort into its role as a member of the Southern Basketball Association during the year. May 2019 saw the resignation of 4 out of 7 Association board members. Whilst Association operations and domestic competitions have continued to operate, a lack of quorum has meant that important priorities flagged by the SBA Board including an overhaul of the SBA Constitution and acquisition of additional funding for new courts were overtaken by the need to resolve SBA governance issues.

Like all SBA and local basketball stakeholders, the Sharks would like to see ongoing, stable and effective governance of the SBA without significant conflict and upheaval. We view this governance as vital to securing the funding needed to build the additional 4 courts and to ensure the ongoing growth of the domestic competition.

Whilst we acknowledge the important and difficult work the board has performed over the last 2 years, the majority of the Sharks Committee are of the view that a new board and a fresh start for the Association is required. We felt uncomfortable making a change to the SBA Constitution giving the remaining 3 board members the

power to appoint individuals to the 4 casual vacancies, having preferred an alternative course of action where we were given the opportunity to vote without the need to change the SBA Constitution. For this reason, the Sharks voted 'No' at the recent Extraordinary General Meeting to a change to the SBA Constitution.

Some within the Association may currently view the Sharks as a 'dissenter' or 'disturber'. It is worth noting we supported the current incumbents through a Board replacement over 2 years ago and continue to maintain a highly cooperative relationship with the administration of the domestic competition. Instability has been a feature of SBA governance for some time and we strongly believe there needs to be a significant culture shift to promote stable, ongoing governance necessary to move the SBA forward. As President of the Sharks, I am passionate about our basketball community and its role in making the Association what it is. The Association IS made up of the clubs, players, volunteers and individual who make a contribution to basketball in our region. All members and contributors to the Association must be allowed to have their opinion heard, be respected and acknowledged for the contribution they make to our community-based organization.

We look forward to voting at the Annual General Meeting, which will be conducted in January 2020, to elect a new SBA Board of Management. We encourage anyone who believes they have the skills, passion, time and vision to put their hand up to participate on the SBA Board.

Thank you

Our primary focus continues to be on ensuring all current and prospective Sharks players are given every opportunity to play and develop their skills and love of the game. This requires the hard work of a large number of people who support the Club's operations for the benefit of our junior and senior players, including our amazing coaches and team managers. A big thanks goes to them!

A special 'thank you' must also go to the following people:

Lynelle Yegles, the Sharks 'go to person' on the frontline for her amazing efforts working across nearly every part of the Sharks administration and communication. Thanks Lynelle and we are sending you our love and best wishes over the next few months 😊

Our amazing Treasurer Kathy Pratt, who manages the finances of the Club and contributes to the running of the club in many other ways including her tireless scoring of finals games and of course those amazing club posters she prepares 😊

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Malcolm Pulling who works tirelessly with our teams scheduling training sessions with Brandon. Malcolm has also arranged the specialized player clinics and is our invaluable stats man! 😊

Dallas Mactier who continues to work tirelessly at trying to keep all of our 100+ teams happy allocating training times and venues each season. We appreciate your resilience and dedication to the task, the Sharks and basketball in general 😊

Fiona Love for her energy, enthusiasm and organizational skills, especially in making our social events a reality and her willingness to take on anything, anytime, anywhere for the Club 😊

Rob Howell for his contribution to the Club and Committee during his tenure as a general member and Vice President. 😊

Our wonderful age group coordinators Mel, Leanne, Fiona, Sandy, Michelle, Belinda, Kathy, Louise, Lou, Lorna, Sue and Simone for working hard forming and registering teams, and communicating with teams. It only happens twice a year, but gee that registration time comes around quickly!! You gals do an amazing job 😊

Our uniform coordinator Sandy for her tireless efforts kitting everyone out at the start of each season as well as managing stock levels and allowing a large percentage of the Sharks community into her kitchen! 😊

The Association, for giving us access to the upstairs social room for meetings and the office team of Vicki and Sophie for their efforts in making the domestic competition a reality. 😊

Without these people and their amazing efforts the Club couldn't operate!

Looking ahead to 2020

Some of the areas of focus for the Sharks in 2020 will include:

- Developing a succession plan for the Sharks' committee members with the aim that parents of younger players become involved in the committee to ensure continuity of governance;
- Continued work updating position descriptions and policies to aid the transition of new committee members;
- Ensuring our website is up to date and enhance the information provided to members on this site. This has been an area of ongoing but sporadic work and will become a priority over the next few months;

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- Maintaining our requirements under the Child Safety Standards with focus on maintaining a safe environment for all of our players;
- Continuing to represent the Sharks as a part of the Southern Basketball Association, supporting the role of the SBA in growing basketball in the region. This includes, but is not restricted to, working with the newly elected Board to ensure the SBA Constitution is reviewed and updated and funding is secured for the new 4 courts.

Thanks to everyone for their contribution, big and small, that makes our Club such a thriving band of basketballers. May our enjoyment of the game continue throughout 2020 and beyond.

GO SHARKS!

Angela Gilchrist
President
1 December 2019

Our committee functions with these objects in mind at all times...

The objectives of the Club shall be to:

- (a) represent the interests of basketball and all involved in basketball within the Club;
 - (b) provide individuals with opportunities to maximise their potential by competing in the highest level of basketball possible, given their own ability; and
 - (c) promote, develop and encourage participation in the sport of basketball.
- (2) In pursuit of these objectives, the Club will seek to:
- (a) provide support and assistance for teams in all areas of their operations;
 - (b) encourage and support teams and foster their growth and development;
 - (c) choose and manage teams to represent the Club;
 - (d) enter teams in the competitions conducted by the Southern Basketball Association and any other Association considered beneficial;
 - (e) seek sponsorship for various programs and events and endorse products that will be consistent with projecting the best image of the sport; and

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- (f) deal with any other matters that the Club may deem to be in the interest of the sport of basketball.