



University of Newcastle Rugby League Football Club 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT 2008

**Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting of participating members
held at the Royal Hotel, Station Street, Waratah, NSW
[19/11/2008]**

1. OPENING: The meeting was declared open by the exiting Club President Mat Sharman at 6:30 pm with 25 members present (signed registrations appendix 4). Terry Kachel, Club patron was especially welcomed to observe the proceedings.

2. APOLOGIES: Jordan Cruickshank, Mathew Langford

3. MINUTES: of the 2007 Annual General Meeting held 10/11/2007 were circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read; Confirmed as a true record on the motion of Geoff O'Dell seconded by Shaun Johnston carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No business arose from previous meeting which were deemed appropriate to address within the Annual General Meeting quorum. This was due the resignation of several committee members from executive roles of the 2008 board.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Appendix 1)

The President spoke to the report distributed to members prior to the meeting. There were no questions relating to the report.

Additional Comments:

The report was received and accepted on the motion of Shaun Johnston seconded by Geoff O'Dell; carried.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

(Appendix 2)

The Club Secretary's report was circulated to members prior to the meeting and taken as read. There were no questions relating to the report.

Additional Comments:

The report was received and accepted on the motion of Mark Irwin seconded by David Fitzgerald; carried.

7. TREASURERS REPORT

(Appendix 3)

A copy of the Financial Statement of Accounts and the Auditors Report for the year ended 17/10/08 was circulated to members present. The report shows total income generated through sponsorship and fund raising totalled \$22,277. Operating costs of the Club totalled \$15,817, the most significant of these being travel costs, social events, uniforms and club registration. This resulted in a net surplus of \$6460.

Additional Comments:

Moved Mat Sharman, seconded by Michael Burke that the financial Statement be received and confirmed; carried

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Secretary read from a prepared report on the outcome of the elections conducted subject to Club Rules. The following participating members were declared elected unopposed for 2009:

	2008 Sitting	2009 Elected	Nominated	Seconded
President	Mat Sharman	Shaun Johnston	Terry Kachel	Barry Campbell
Vice President	Michael Burke	David Fitzgerald	Geoff O'Dell	Barry Campbell
Secretary	Mathew Langford	Barry Campbell	Geoff O'Dell	Tom Campbell
Treasurer	Troy Baxter	Mathew Langford	Chris Gabrieldes	Geoff O'Dell
Head Coach	Geoff O'dell	TBA	TBA	TBA
Assistant Coach	Michael Burke	TBA	TBA	TBA
Club Captain	Mark Irwin	TBA	TBA	TBA
Assistants to the Board	Barry Campbell, Heath Robertson, David Fitzgerald, Tom Campbell, Will Hopcroft	Heath Robertson, Tom Campbell, Mark Irwin, Chris Gabrieldes, Ben Belfield	Shaun Johnston	Terry Kachel
Tertiary League Liaison	Lucas Duncombe	Tom Campbell	Mark Irwin	Heath Robertson
Social Event Organiser	Will Hopcroft	TBA	TBA	TBA

For Contact details of the board members please see Appendix 5.

9. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The President provided an overview of a report prepared on a vision for the Club leading up to the year 2009. The emphasis was on attracting people back into the Club with an enhanced focus on building a stronger business community around the club.

The 2009 season will be a season of change for the Club. The major change to be implemented through the club is fielding two teams to compete in the NSW Tertiary Competition. In order to achieve this goal, the club will be looking into new ventures involving local Newcastle Rugby League and its Clubs to raise the profile of the University Rugby League Club with players in the local Competition. Improvements will be implemented to increase the quality of the product we are promoting by providing a business directory for all sponsors of the club to “give back” to our sponsors’ businesses. The Club will continue to honour its promise to reduce player costs in the coming season.

A long term strategy of the club is to implement and develop the University of Newcastle Rugby League Football Club Business Directory. The implementation of a business directory is to develop a tight knit networking opportunity for sponsor and member of the club. All sponsors of the club will be included in the business directory; the first objective is to attain strong referrals for our sponsors. The intention from the clubs perspective to grow a larger community around the club, this will benefit the club financially, socially and improve the player base.

In the past the club has maintained a strong relationship with all sponsors but never advertised and driven business referrals throughout the clubs members, friends and families. The club plans to increase the number of sponsors present at home games. The benefit of our sponsors being at home games are limitless, the better players know the sponsors of the club the higher the referral rate from the club.

The Club intends to sustain two grades for several years to come. Sustaining these player numbers is one of the biggest challenges faced by the club. To achieve this strategic goal several plans are underway. The Club will expand its player catchment area to greater than the campus freshmen for 2009 and onwards. Correspondence is under way incorporating the Newcastle Rugby League Clubs. No official agreement has been made with the League or with any particular club; however the minimisation of grades in the Newcastle League gives the Club a unique opportunity to expand in 2009 and beyond.

After a strong financial performance the Club will continue to honour its greatest commitment, which is to the members. The club aims to reduce registration fees and offset as much of the costs incurred by members such as registration fees, travel costs and costs of social events.

The report prompted an enthusiastic exchange of ideas for a more integrated club.

10. CLOSE

Terry Kachel (Life Member) spoke favourably of the achievements of Mat Sharman, Mathew Langford and Geoff O'Dell in providing strong leadership for the Club. The comments were supported with acclamation.

The meeting was declared closed at 8:00 pm followed by a social hour.

Barrett Campbell
Club Secretary 2009

Appendix 1

Presidents Report 2008

The University of Newcastle Rugby League Football Club had an outstanding season in 2008, achieving both on the field and off. After entering only one side into second division of the NSW Tertiary Competition, a lot of expectations were placed on the older players of the club to pull together a large number of new faces and form a team that would take the UNRLFC to victory. I would like to be the first to congratulate the players on the stellar performances seen throughout the 2008 season which helped them win both minor and major 2008 premierships.

UNRLFC would like to acknowledge the support it has received from its Sponsors from the 2008 season and hope their support continues into 2009. Major sponsors The Royal Hotel Waratah provided top of the line support to the club providing great service and top of the line food. The club is always welcoming new sponsors and has an attractive offer for new sponsors to the club for the 2009 season. Please see the attached sponsorship arrangement for 2009 information package.

I would also like to acknowledge the accomplishments of Tom Campbell & Brett Phillips for their selection into the NSW Tertiary State side and Mark Irwin for his selection in the NSW Tertiary Country side, he was actually appointed the captain of the side as well, which was a great honour.

As comes with every season there are individuals who put their body on the line each week to help win premierships. The club is proud to acknowledge Heath Robertson on his performance taking the team to the semi finals as hooker before breaking his hand and being concussed only a few weeks away from the finals. Personally I know he was devastated to have missed the final's series but enjoyed the victories from the sideline, filling the role of strapper and water boy without hesitation.

I would like to welcome the new players to the club in the 2008 season that rejuvenated the club and won a premiership in their first season. We are always looking for new players and welcome any newcomers to the 2009 Season. We are looking to build to two teams next year, stepping up from second to first grade, so there is a level there for all to be competitive in and to have fun.

Great appreciation must go out to Geoff O'dell. There isn't a player, sponsor or old boy that doesn't know Geoff through one avenue or another. Geoff was once a player for the Club who has coached for the past 2 years. Geoff has grown and developed as a coach over the years. This is Geoff's first premiership and the club congratulates him on an outstanding performance.

The club had another excellent social calendar, which included new player nights, trivia nights and Newcastle Harness Club Trots Night. Special mention must go to Will Hopcroft in heading up the social calendar of the club in conjunction with the Waratah Hotel. I also express appreciation for the supporting roles performed by Mathew Langford, Michael Burke and Geoff O'dell. To have worked on achieving such outstanding events I thank you and hope the 2009 calendar will be just as packed.

The University of Newcastle Rugby League Club would like to inform all current Sponsors and future sponsors the club is officially beginning a business directory to better direct referrals back to our sponsors. Please see the attached Sponsorship Package for more information.

Mat Sharman

Club President 2008

Appendix 2

Secretary's Report

The 2008 season produced a busy year for the committee. The committee held 7 meetings throughout the year. These were conducted at the major sponsor's venue the Royal Hotel at Waratah. Aspects from appointment of a new board, decision on the competition that we would play in (Tertiary or Lower Hunter), recruitment, sponsorship etc were discussed and revisited on a regular basis to ensure what was a very profitable year for the club.

Direct liaison with the Old Boy's network resulted in this aspect of the club developing stronger links, and certain individual packages were developed to assist past players in personal "situations" funded jointly by the club and the old boy's fraternity. Despite these financial outlays the conclusion of the year has seen the club deliver a healthy bank balance personally, as well as the Old boy's network increasing their respective financial links accordingly. Things are looking positive for the commencement of the 2009 season with projects already in place to ensure a smooth transition from the old to the new board, and the old to the new players.

The committee was headed by Mat Sharman as president of the club throughout the 2008 season. The operations of the club for the 2008 club season were seamless, all board members contributed to their respective processes to ensure that dead lines were met with regard to both Nu Sport and the Tertiary Rugby League.

I would like to thank the NSW Tertiary Competition, the sponsors, members of the club and committee for their support during the year. I wish the new committee well. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as Secretary in 2008

Mat Langford

Club Secretary 2008

Appendix 3

Treasurers Report

After an excellent performance on the field, the clubs financial position has also improved. A healthy surplus for 2008, the Club's intention is to expand membership in 2009 and use these funds to offset the costs incurred by members such as registration fees, travel costs and costs of social events.

The club appreciates the sponsorship it received in the 2008 season, which has contributed to the Clubs positive financial position. Strategies to increase the benefit received by our sponsors are currently under way. Intentions are to grow the Club's business community and increase support for the club.

As shown below the total income generated by the club was \$26,539 and operating costs totalled \$20,079 which resulted in a net surplus of \$6,460.

Troy Baxter

Club Treasurer 2008

UNRLFC				
Financial Report Season Ended 2008				
			2008	2009
			ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income				
	Sponsorship		7,500	15,400
	Fund Raising		15,481	12,750
	Registration		3,550	2,250
	Interest		8	10
	TOTAL INCOME		26,539	30,410
Expenses				
	Trav Fuel & Bus hire		4,217	6,500
	Club rego		2,300	4,800
	Ground hire		518	1,200
	Uniforms		2,478	5,056
	Trophies		350	600
	Equipment		188	200
	Presentation Night			1,000
	Sevens		840	1,000
	Administration			500
	Social Events		8,168	8,500
	Other		1,020	1,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES		20,079	30,356
	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		6,460	54

Appendix 4

Attendance

The following members attended and signed the registration book.

Signed Registrations	
Name	
Shaun	Johnson
Barry	Campbell
Geoff	O'Dell
Tom	Campbell
Ben	Belfield
Lincoln	Vero
David	Fitzgerald
Mark	Irwin
Brett	Phillips
Terry	Kachel
Mat	Sharman
Michael	Burke
Troy	Baxter
Chris	Gabrieldes
Tony	Kocek
Matt	Robson
Heath	Robertson
Mick	O'Brien
Danny	Kirk
Troy	Baxter
Greg	Mantle
Cameron	Grant
Will	Bullock
Ryan	Flanagan
Nigel	Ray

Appendix 5

Committee Contact Details

Committee				
Committee Role	Surname	First Name	Phone	Email
President	Johnston	Shaun		shaun.johnston@railcorp.nsw.gov.au
Vice President	Fitzgerald	David	0425 234 442	david.fitzgerald@studentmail.edu.au
Secretary	Campbell	Barrett	0403 996 957	barry.c@cws.biz
Treasurer	Langford	Mathew	0424 689 504	mathew.langford@studentmail.newcastle.edu.au
Assistant to the Board	Belfield	Ben	0421 800 886	b.belfield@monteathpowys.com.au
Assistant to the Board	Campbell	Thomas	0428 183 792	thomas.campbell@studentmail.newcastle.edu.au
Assistant to the Board	Robertson	Heath	0428 502 623	robbo_31@hotmail.com