

GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB

TWENTY THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SEASON 1955.

GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB

OFFICE-BEARERS

SEASON 1955

FOUNDER: The late Rev. Bro. McCarten Keegan
PATRON: K. Dickey Esq.
PRESIDENT: J. J. Worley Esq.
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT: M. Steedman Esq.

Vice Presidents:

A. Jurd	G. Mockler	Mrs. M. Dickey
E. Rodgers	F. Needham, Snr.	C. Humphreys
G. Stanley	Hon. W. O'Connor	N. O'Donnell
	T. Pearce	D. Riley

Life Members:

The Late Mrs. W. J. Taylor J. Quinlan J. Kenny

Hon. Secretary:

N. F. Walker resigned
R. Thorpe appointed
27/1/56.

Hon. Treasurer:

A. A. Robb

Hon. Ass. Secretary:

A. Gough

Hon. Ass. Treasurer:

K. Riley

Club Captain:

H. Wark

Club Vice Captain:

R. Thorpe

Publicity Officer:

N. Walker

Delegate to S.H.A.:

N. Walker

Alternate Delegate to S.H.A.

A. Robb

Management Committee:

J. Worley
K. Dickey
F. Murray

N. Walker
H. Wark
W. Murray

A. Robb
R. Thorpe
L. Waight resigned
26/5/55.
A. Gough appointed
26/5/55

Provisional Selection Committee:

L. Waight
V. Turner
A. Robb
N. Walker
K. Dickey

Hon. Auditor:

J. McParland.

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The Late Mrs. W. J. Taylor ✓ J. Quinlan ✓

J. Kenny ✓

W. F. Ryan.

Hon. Secretary:

Hon. Treasurer:

~~W. J. Taylor~~

~~A. Robb~~

R. Thorpe appointed ✓
27/1/56.

H. Butler ✓

Hon. Ass. Secretary:

Hon. Ass. Treasurer:

~~A. Gough~~ ~~A. Rodgers~~
~~P. Rogers~~
J. Buckley ✓

~~A. Robb~~ ~~A. Butler~~
P. Rogers ✓

Club Captain:

Club Vice Captain:

Publicity Officer:

H. Wark ✓

R. Thorpe ✓

J. Taylor ✓
~~N. Walker~~

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~~W. J. Taylor~~ ~~A. Butler~~
K. Wark ✓

Alternate Delegate to S.H.A.

~~W. J. Taylor~~ A. Halls ✓

Management Committee:

J. Worley ✓
K. Dickey ✓
~~P. Rogers~~ P. Rogers
K. Wark ✓
J. Buckley ✓

~~N. Walker~~ H. Butler
H. Wark ✓
~~N. Walker~~
D. Robertson

~~A. Robb~~
R. Thorpe
L. Waight resigned
26/5/55.
~~A. Gough~~ appointed
26/5/55

Provisional Selection Committee:

~~W. J. Taylor~~ K. Wark ✓
V. Turner ✓ R. Thorpe ✓
~~W. J. Taylor~~
K. Dickey ✓ H. Wark ✓

Hon. Auditor:

J. McParland. ✓

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K. Dickey	H. Wark	R. Thorpe
F. Murray	W. Murray	L. Waight resigned 26/5/55.
		A. Gough appointed 26/5/55

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V. Turner
A. Robb
N. Walker
K. Dickey

Hon. Auditor:

J. McParland.

INTRODUCTION TO ANNUAL REPORT 1955.

Gentlemen,

Once more we present a review of our Season's Hockey, and the results obtained from some points of view were satisfactory while others left something to be desired.

The standard of play presented by respective Club Teams with the possible exception of First Grade showed marked deterioration, and one of our first tasks in the coming Season must be to arrest this undesirable trend.

It would appear that our standards have fallen because the flair of talented Juniors has not kept pace with normal wastage and perhaps because of the absence of skilled coaching. The outlook is not so black that these defects cannot be remedied as the respective answers lie in our own hands.

The rapid development of Junior Hockey last year was a very pleasing feature, and if this work is carried on the future of the Club is assured. The limiting factor to Junior development is the number of senior members who are willing to assist in organisation and administration, and it is to be hoped that a greater number will offer their services during 1956. The small band of workers in this respect did a magnificent job during 1955, and to them we offer our sincere thanks.

Season 1956 will be a momentous one as it will culminate in the Olympic Games in Melbourne during November. It is to be hoped that Sydney will see a number of the International Teams in action. No doubt you will all look forward to this mighty spectacle.

Our Club suffered a severe loss on the Administrative side when Noel Walker was recently transferred to Adelaide by his employers. Noel has been one of the most capable and energetic executives which this Club has produced and as a Secretary his work was fabulous. We wish him well in his new venture and we hope that he will not be lost to the game but that our loss is Adelaide's gain.

In addition we are to lose the valuable services of Alec Robb as Treasurer and Executive Member because of his return home to Queensland. Although Alec has only been with us a short time he has already established himself as a player and official of the highest order. We extend our thanks for a job well done and wish him all the best for the future.

Let us all resolve now to put our shoulders to the wheel during the coming season for the general betterment of the Game that Grows and pledge full support to Assn. Officials who make the game possible.

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<u>FIRST GRADE:</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>GOALS FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST.</u>
	16	14	1	1	41	19

The first grade team were successful in regaining the "A" Grade premier-ship honours which they lost the previous year. The Team took quite some time to settle down, but towards the end of the season a series of team talks enabled its members to thrash out certain points and no doubt these talks proved very helpful.

Games played during the season were much closer as far as scores were concerned, and the keenness between the clubs was much greater, due to the fact that only the leading eight teams from the previous years A grade competition participated in our section.

Our custodian Bob Rodgers was one of the few players who played every game in first grade. Bob had his big moments and brought off many spectacular saves throughout the season.

Ken Wark commenced the season in the right half position, and proved a very attacking type of half. However, towards the end of the season the selection decided that it would be better for the team to have Ken at right back, the position he has really mastered.

Jack Taylor after many years of "near representation" was selected to play in The All Australian Senior Carnival in Brisbane. This selection helped Jack lift his game and towards the end of the season his defence was quite sound.

Vince Halls commenced the season in the "firsts" as right back but had to make way for Ken Wark in the latter part of the competition.

Vernon Turner played most of his matches in the left half position, although he represented New South Wales against the Indian Wanderers in his old position of left wing. Vernon seems to be at home wherever he is asked to play.

Len Needham was unfortunate to be involved in an accident at work after playing the first five games of the season with the firsts. We trust that the 1956 season will see Len wearing the "Red" shirt once again.

Victor Westacott - the baby of our team - was perhaps one of the most improved players in the Club, after his first season in the senior ranks. Quite an outstanding effort to rise from our under 16 team to the first eleven, and then to the Sydney firsts in one year. Congratulations Victor.

Paul Rogers earned his place in the top eleven in the right half position when a few of our players were away at Brisbane, and showed the selectors enough form, that he remained there for the rest of the season and played good hockey into the bargain. With these two young half backs the club has the makings of a very solid half line for years to come.

Jim Flood another new comer to the team proved his salt in the left wing position, but this young player has too much vim and vigour to be wasted on the wing.

Alex Robb was fortunate to lead his team to premiership honours in his first year as skipper. With the other inside forwards he was one of the leading scorers in the team.

Ray Thorpe was a welcome sight back in the forward line and was the leading goal scorer in the "A" grade competition, netting 15 goals throughout the season.

Harry Wark finished the season with 11 goals to his credit and his presence in the forwards still makes any opposition watch him throughout a match.

Noel Walker once again was our outside right and played consistently throughout the year. Noel's efforts both on and off the field are worthy of mention for he did a lot of work unforseen to the majority of club members.

Kelvin Dickey and Frank Murray helped out when our ranks were depleted due to players going to Brisbane and helped us defeat St. George in what was perhaps one of the best games of the season. Kelvin also played in the final against Saints after Jim Flood had to retire through injury.

Bennett Dunn played five matches during the season and has the ability to rise to the occasion if asked of him. However, this should not be necessary as the "will to win" should always be present.

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<u>2ND GRADE:</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>GOALS FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST.</u>
	14	6	7	1	30	24

The 2nd Grade Team of any Club is not known just as the 2nd Grade Team, it is the final grooming department of the Club, young players start off in the lower grades and after learning the fundamentals of hockey, begin to force their way up. Each step or team they go up there is something new to learn and how far they go depends upon how well they remember and apply these lessons. By the time 2nd grade is reached each player should have a thorough knowledge of hockey and sportmanship and all that needs to be done is polish up the rough parts.

One of the first things imparted to members of the Glebe Club is, you have never won or been beaten until the final whistle goes, this is something our Club is renewed for and something we are very proud of. Last season it appeared that some of our players seemed to forget this very important fundamental rule and consequently it showed in the results. Let us see that next season this thought is first and foremost in our mind and do not stop trying until that final whistle goes.

On paper this team was strong enough to take on all comers and come out on top, but, during the year we saw changes take place and the results we expected were not achieved.

The team selected at the beginning of the year was a mixture of seasoned players, players who have passed their peak and are no longer knocking at the door of first grade, and up and coming youngsters who are, or appear to be, very definitely on the way up the ladder. This is an ideal combination for formation of a team.

During the year we saw a number of changes made in the team, changes which were forced upon the Selectors by a number of reasons, namely, loss of players, unavailability of players and last, but not least, loss of form of players. This no doubt accounted for some of the loss of fighting spirit in this team.

The goal-keeping for the team was shared by B. Pickett and W. Murray. Barry is still very young and with a little more experience, and confidence, he will be

a good asset to the Club. Wilf Murray started off the season very shaky in his new position, but with each game he improved and towards the end of the season he showed us some good keeping.

Keith Riley and Greg Harris are two lads who did not have a really good year in their full back positions. Both are capable of and probably will be first grade players when they settle down. We expect bigger and better things from them this year.

Max Jeffs finished the season off by being promoted from 3rd Grade to 2nd Grade and filling the left half position very capably. This lad has a lot of potential and next season could be a source of annoyance to the first grade left half. His positional play is delightful to watch.

Don Campbell played most of the season in the most important position of centre half and acquitted himself very well. If anything, Don tries to do too much himself, he is a tiger for work and very often goes looking for it, stick to that position Don.

Paul Rogers came into the team after doing his National Training and soon showed his old form, so much so that he finished the season in 1st grade more than holding his own. For one so small he has remarkable tenacity and fighting spirit. We do not expect to see him in 2nd Grade any more for a number of years.

The forward line had quite a few changes in it through the Season. Three youngsters who played were - Bennett Dunn, Jim Flood and Bob Fox. All played well and this year any, or all, of them could be in 1st grade. Jim played the last few games on the left wing in first grade and it looks like the left wing position could be his again this year. Bennett played in the left wing position, but was not happy. The right wing position in 1st grade is vacant so I guess both Bob and Ben will be flat out to claim it.

John Sutherland once again filled the centre forward position, and he played some grand games. His position enabled him to give the young forwards considerable help and advice.

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<u>3rd GRADE:</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>GOALS FOR</u>	<u>GOALS AGAINST</u>
	15	9	3	3	44	11

This team as in previous years played some good hockey and only for some bad luck may have gone closer to taking off the honours. The team consisted of seasoned players and promising young players, and their experience with this team should help them in their coming hockey years. We hope that in the coming season with an increased effort by this team to once more have the name of Glebe inscribed on the 'J.W. Taylor Cup'.

John Waterson played good consistent hockey during the season and deserved his rise in grade. Greg Harris, although not playing his best hockey early in the season, came good and gave a good showing towards the end.

Keith Riley, another player who didn't show up at his best early in the season but played well in the closing stages and proved himself very handy in the half line. Harry Butler, one of the older players in the team and his experience proved very handy. Fred Needham once again played well and broke up many attacks with his fine tackling. Maurie Cownie, only a couple of years out of the under 16 team and with a bit more experience, should give a good account of himself in later seasons. Allan Fox plays hockey for the full 70 minutes he is on the field, and once more gave a display of his "never say - die" game. Dave Robertson, another one of the older players and although not as fast as he was once, can still give most young players a lesson in stick work. Gary Sullivan, one of the hardest hitters in the team. He netted some nice goals during the season. Max Jeffs has a good future in hockey, and with a bit more experience and weight, should go a long way in the game. Jack Buckley joined the team late in the season and proved himself very handy on the right wing. B. Pickett kept well in goals and broke up many attacks. Ian Hamilton, a good club man and an asset on the left wing. Allan Halls, another good club man and a great opportunist. Sets a good example to his team.

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<u>MINOR A GRADE:</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>GOALS FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
	15	7	4	4	55	22

This team put up a great effort to reach the semi finals to be narrowly defeated by the Minor premiers. Despite a persistent shortage on numerous Saturdays, we were able to field a team with the help of other grades.

The most frequent members of the team:-

- R. Payne-Scott. Played in the last line of defence. A job well done.
- J. Kenny. A lifer with the spirit of youth.
- N. Williams. Not available, by Dogs, out of Sydney.
- A. Gough. A tower of strength to his team and club. Should be more like him.
- M. Campbell. A strong centre half whose performances were top class.
- R. Warner. Who on numerous occasions gave a good account of himself.
- J. Brown. Gave the inside left many scoring opportunities while playing on the left wing.
- D. Fishenden. Showed flashes of good form.
- N. Dundass. Captain by vote out of Kindness of Heart,
- W. Lickiss. Unfortunately Bill's work took him Cootamundra half way through the season.
- W. Parry. A player with his head in the clouds.
- G. Sullivan. Inside Left by pick out of position.
- W. Stubbs. An under sixteen player who was always there when we were short.

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<u>MINOR B. GRADE:</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>D.</u>	<u>Goals for</u>	<u>Against.</u>
	14	8	6	-	20	18

During the season this team saw the comings and goings of many Club members. It was far removed from a stable team membership and, as a natural consequence, little team work was developed. Towards the end of the season this team rarely took the field with a full eleven. The fact that it failed to achieve great results is therefore not surprising.

The main stays of the team were Kevin Ryan, who captained the team for most of the season; Max Steedman, who like Kev Ryan had been called out of retirement; and Ted Cody, a newcomer to the Club, but by no means a newcomer to hockey. His prowess is still very much in evidence and provided a good lesson for those junior members who were prepared to benefit by a study of Ted's stickwork and anticipatory skill.

It might easily be argued that this team should not have been nominated in the competition because of lack of numbers. However, on the otherhand it provided a regular match for those surplus from the higher grades enabling them to have constant contact with competitive hockey as a prelude to mere senior hockey in the years ahead.

22 players played in the team throughout the year. The "regulars" mainly were H. Wilson, R. Cullen, I Bishop, W. Hardy, R. Tundy, L. Hackett, L. Beaman. The "Flying Fireman" - or is it the "Flaming Fireman" - Harry Wilson was the team's leading goal scorer. How was the Smoke-o, Harry?

UNDER 16:

The under 16 team which is the stepping stone of the junior players into the ranks of senior members achieved remarkable success considering the small amount of attention received from the Club.

The attention in question relates not to the well wishes of the club proper, but to the lack of real interest in raising the standard of play of this junior team. Active coaching was absent but nevertheless their play denoted a high degree of natural ability. But this natural ability is not enough; it must be channelled off and directed.

It is to be hoped that the 1956 Season will develop a different frame of mind in the senior members and promote a more active interest in the hockey well being of these future 1st graders.

While it is desirable to win competitions, it is also desirable that players learn the rudiments of fair play and sportsmanship. The competition results prove that the Glebe team was not the best competitor, but many lessons have been learnt both by the players and administration alike.

In analysing the merits and shortcomings of the team the above criticisms must be borne in mind.

Congratulations are extended to Bill Stubbs who was awarded the V. J. Turner Trophy for the 1955 season. When it is considered that Bill represented N.S.W. and Sydney under 16 years, it is not hard to understand why he became the recipient of this award. Furthermore, he exhibited true qualities of leadership in his capacity as Captain. Constructively criticising his play, he could be advised to become more aggressive in the circle and to polish up his stickwork.