



# **NASC WOMBATS HOCKEY CLUB**

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**NEWSLETTER**  
**July 2008**

## **Club News**

It has been a while since our last newsletter and so much has happened over the last few months. We are now on the downhill slope with the season more than halfway over and a few recent games have reminded us that there is snow on the mountains and that the hockey ground is one of the coldest places on earth. I played Vets the other night and got drenched, which has not been a common occurrence over the last few years and I must say not one to be relished. We played on trying to convince ourselves that it was great, fine, fun, as we needed the rain. Our other vets team forgot that hockey was a winter sport and that we only stop for lightning. They left before they got wet even though the game was not nearly over. What does that say for their staying power?

A number of the wombats committee have been involved with Rep Hockey commitments over the last few months. This says a lot about the calibre and dedication to hockey of those we are lucky enough to have on our committee. With the Rep commitments now all but over Hockey Albury Wodonga can be proud of their achievements in all of the competitions that we entered this year. Well done to everyone that was involved.

Don't forget that every second Saturday the Strikers and Spitfires play in Albury. This is a great opportunity to see some talented local players play a level of hockey that we don't usually get to see in Albury, so come down to support the local side. Wombats have players in both the men's and women's sides and with some of our juniors showing their talents in the Rep sides we expect to see a few more Wombats play at this level in the years to come.

I always think that the beginning of the season is busy trying to get organised. It seems that we only just get ourselves sorted and we are in to mid season and the next round of fundraising and fun activities. These fun events are important for our club and we seek your assistance in helping out where you can with the organisation and supporting us with your attendance. Below we acknowledge a number of wombats for their help so far this year. It always makes me feel I belong to the right club when we list our achievements and acknowledge those that put in the time and effort to support Wombats. I look forward to seeing you all at a Wombats sponsored event sooner or later.

Cheers  
Julie

## **Wine Drive 2008**

The wine drive for 2008 will be a little different this year. While we are still going with Gapsted wines as they have proven to be excellent value for money over the years, this year we are going a little up market and are offering their Victorian Alps Black Range which is a labelled bottle. While the range is smaller the quality is excellent with the Chardonnay winning a gold medal in the Royal Hobart wine show. The red this year has its peak drinking time listed as now -2010 so you can purchase this with the view to drinking some now and cellaring some to be enjoyed later. Wombats however seem to have a problem with the cellaring and enjoying later. This year we will be offering a 2007 Semillon Sauvignon Blanc, a 2006 Chardonnay, a 2006 Cabernet Merlot and a cleanskins sparkling in the form of a NV Brut Cuvee. For information and tasting notes please check the Website. For orders or an order form to be passed around your workplace please see Cayte Campbell.



## Trivia Night

The trivia night is just around the corner. In fact it is only a fortnight away on Saturday July 26 starting at 7.00 for 7.30. See Cayte or a committee member about booking a table of 8 or leaving your name to fill any vacant places anyone else may have as there are only 17 tables and they go fast. This year with interest rates and petrol prices on the rise we have decided to charge the same as we have for the last few years and leave the price at \$10 per head. As always we expect this to be another fun night and a great fundraiser for Wombats so bring a friend or two and join in the fun.

## Rep Hockey

Rep hockey is just about over for the year with the trip to Melbourne on the long weekend just completed. Congratulations to all of the Wombats players that attended both Canberra and Melbourne representing our Association. From the feedback that I have had it seems that everyone had a great time and we were very successful.

We saw the Rep committee introduce a new format this year with the Rep and Dev teams going in different directions. From all reports it has been a resounding success. The boy's u13 and u15 sides did not get as much game time as they would have liked in Canberra but the competition challenged them and the hockey was great. I know that the Director of hockey is looking to find more competitions for this group next year.

Special congratulations go to Cassie Lee and Ben Hooppell who both made the Victorian State Team in the under 13 age group along with some other players from Albury Wodonga. Well done guys this is a great acknowledgement of your hockey prowess and this experience offers a great opportunity to further learn and consolidate your skills. Good luck and enjoy your hockey and remember that behind every talented hockey player there are dedicated parents working hard to make sure you are able to get the most out of this experience.

## Thank you

We have lots of people to recognise in this newsletter starting way back at Easter with Leanne Johnson organising and supervising the Bunnings BBQ in Wodonga with the help of the following volunteers – Caitlin and Liam O'Dwyer, Tony Kolbe, Cayte Campbell, Sue and Mike Waters, Alyson and Ethan Savige, Ann Bartram, Sharon Wendt, Eric and Bev Allerdice, Matt, Julie and Ryen Versteegen, and Lyn Pratt. We raised about \$500 for our efforts.

We also need to thank Deb MacVean for supporting and organising the selling of tickets in the meat tray raffles at the North Albury Sports Club every Thursday for the month of May. We raised \$560 for the club thanks to Debs efforts and her able bodied assistants Graeme & Vicki Roy, Graeme Dade, Matt Versteegen, Michael Bartram, Stephen Rooke and Ian Campbell.

Thank you to Steve Hooppell for organising the questions and being the MC for the junior trivia night. The kids had a ball and I think we will have to make this an annual event. Thank you to the managers who organised and collected the money and helped ensure it wasn't complete chaos on the night. Thanks also to the parents that assisted on the night with pizza and crowd control.

Thank you to those that sold tickets in the NASC Raffle we made about \$1200 for the club thanks to your efforts and 5 Wombats took out prizes – 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Townsend, 4<sup>th</sup> Jo Copley, 8<sup>th</sup> Paul Bailey, 9<sup>th</sup> C Murphy, 10<sup>th</sup> S Canavan.

## Code of Conduct

This year we have had been working towards ensuring that our players behaviour on and off the field aligns with the values and expectations set out in our code of conduct. We as a club need to ensure that the values that we profess to have actually do determine our behaviour on the field. I would



like to acknowledge the efforts of players and teams who are playing their games with this in mind, ensuring that they, as well as the opposition and the officials are enjoying their hockey. Rules determine how people behave when they know they are being observed. Values determine how we behave when we think no one is watching. Let's play out the season as if no one is watching and ensure that our behaviour on the field is consistent with our values.

### **Overdue Fees**

Letters will go out this week to those players that still have outstanding fees. If you have forgotten to pay or haven't made an arrangement to pay in instalments you can expect to receive a reminder in the mail. We would appreciate you addressing this situation as soon as possible with your manager, a committee member or our treasurer Joy Lee.

### **Goal Keeping Clinic**

Recently Wombats sponsored a number of our goalies to attend a clinic in Wodonga. Based on the feedback we had from the goalies that attended it was a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience and they would recommend it to anyone that has the chance to attend Julia Woods clinics in the future. Wombats would like to thank the Wodonga hockey club for opening up the opportunity for this training experience to all clubs in the association.

### **Balls**

Each year we start the season with new game balls and bags and crates of practice balls. About this time of year we notice that the cold gets to the balls and we tend to break a few. That coupled with the fact that we lose them quite regularly and at \$10 a ball that adds up to a lot of money spent on replacing them. We would like all players to make sure that they collect all of the balls after their hit up and that if any go over the fence please go and get them immediately. Thanks in anticipation of your efforts to keep our balls in our bags.

### **Hot Dog Night for Juniors**

Although the trivia and pizza night seemed to be only a short while ago it seems we are about to be social again and organise a hot dog night on Thursday July 31<sup>st</sup> after training. Manager should talk to you soon about collecting your money and taking your orders for hotdogs. \$5 will get you a hot dog, a can of drink and a chocolate (it is too cold for ice cream isn't it?). An extra hot dog will cost you \$2

### **Wombats Comings and Goings**

Congratulations to Ian Foulston and his partner Razz on the birth of their new baby boy, a brother for Rose and Mia. Congratulations also to the very excited grandparents, Ed and Marg.

Good Luck to Tom Swaby who left Albury to start a new job in Melbourne recently. Tom has been a hard working member of our committee this year and we will miss his wit and wry sense of humour not to mention what having a 23 year old (soon to be 24) did to the average age of our committee. We hope to see Tom return home for a visit now and then to play hockey with the Div 1 Men and volunteer for a job or two at the trivia night and end of year presentation.

Congratulations to former Wombat Justin Ellis on being selected into the Australian Under 21s Men's team.

Until the next edition, stay warm and enjoy your hockey.  
NASC Wombats Hockey Committee